This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 4 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretation of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Courage consists not in hazarding without fear, but being resolutely minded in a just cause.
—Plutarch.

WHOLE NO. 1382 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1937 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer | VOL. 27, NO. 41

American Federation of Labor Convention Opens; 466 Delegates

Addresses of Welcome Are Delivered by Edward E. Goshen, Chairman of the Convention Arrangements Committee; Teller Ammons, Governor of Colorado; B. F. Stapleton, Mayor of Denver; G. E. Collison, Secretary of Denver Chamber of Commerce; Albert Westfall, President of Denver United Veterans Council; James McCoy, Superintendent of Union Printers' Home; Mrs. Joe Pruss, President of Denver Joint Council of Women's Auxiliaries; James A. Brownlow, Vice President of Colorado State Federation of Labor; W. T. Webb, President of Denver Building and Construction Trades Council, and Hugh Osborne, President of Denver Trades and Labor Assembly.

President Green in Keynote Address Assails C. I. O. Leaders for Establishing Dual Movement and Attempting to Destroy Majority Rule in the A. F. of L., Upholds Democratic Institutions, Attacks Communism, and Deplores War in the Settlement of International Disputes.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—The fifty-seventh annual convention of the American Federation of Labor opened in the Denver Municipal Auditorium with 466 delegates present, representing 83 national and international unions, four American Federation of Labor Departments, 34 state federations of labor, 101 central bodies, 68 local trade and federal labor unions, and three fraternal delegates.

The convention was called to order by Edward E. Goshen, chairman of the Convention Arrangements Committee.

Preceding the opening exercises a band of union musicians presented a musical program. Walter Newell entertained the delegates and visitors with a song entitled "Work Along With the A. F. of L.," adopted by the California State Federation of Labor. The lyrics of the song were written by Ben Ellison and the music by Harvey Brooks.

The invocation was delivered by Monsignor William O'Ryan, of St. Leo's Catholic Church.

Gov. Ammons Praises Unions

At the conclusion of the invocation Mr. Goshen introduced Hon. Teller Ammons, Governor of Colorado, who riveted the attention of the delegates with his initial declaration that "We believe in organized labor in Colorado."

"It is unnecessary to point out to you, who do the world's work," Gov. Ammons said, "the tremendous achievements of organized labor in the past decades. It has enabled the laboring people through organized effort to place themselves on a parity with the forces of organized capital. Organized labor has brought about living wages and decent working conditons.

"Sane, but determined leadership has resulted in a never ending progress toward social and economic conditions between those who provide the plans and the capital and those who carry the plans into execution and bring profit to the capital invested.

"You had the vision to see and the courage to believe that the oppression of former years is not an essential element in the relationships between capital and labor today."

Collison Extends Business Welcome

Mr. Goshen then introduced George E. Collison, executive secretary of the

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Morrison Says C. I. O. Will Wind Up In Graveyard of Many Similar Fallacies

Tells Metal Trades Convention the American Federation of Labor Has Raised Its Membership to 3,271,726 in August, 1937, With An Increase of 831,726 Members in the Last Twelve Months Despite the Subversive Activities of the Committee for Industrial Organization in Its Determination to Wreck the Federation.

Declares He Has Seen Many Groups, Beginning With the Knights of Labor, Attack the Legitimate Trade Union Movement and Proclaim the Alleged Benefits of So-Called Industrial Unionism, But They Are Now Buried in the Capacious Tomb of Lost Causes; Visions the C. I. O. Headed for the Same Rendezvous With Death.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—A significant address emphasizing the strength of the American Federation of Labor and uncovering the essential weaknesses of the policies applied by the Committee for Industrial Organization viewed in the light of history was delivered here by Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, before the annual convention of the A. F. of L. Metal Trades Department.

John P. Frey, president of the Department, introduced Mr. Morrison as "one of our most honored as well as one of our most distinguished veterans in the trade union movement."

"For length of service," Mr. Frey said, "perhaps Secretary Morrison's record is unparalled. He is as young as most of us in his spirit and in his viewpoint, but he has completed fifty-one years of continuous membership in the Typographical Union.

"Nowhere in any country at any time has any man been honored for so many years of service in the nation's trade union movement. For forty-one years Secretary Morrison has held that office in the American Federation of Labor. His years of active trade union service covers the growth of the American Federation of Labor. He is the only remaining link between the early leaders of our trade union movement and those of us who today are carrying on the traditions which he helped to found in the American Federation of Labor."

BIG GROWTH IN A. F. OF L. MEMBERSHIP

Pointing out that "the August, 1937, membership of the American Federation of Labor was 3,271,726," Mr. Morrison emphasized the fact that this "is an increase of membership for the past twelve months of 831,726 members." Furthermore, he said the A. F. of L. "is traveling along at an increase of about 65,000 to 67,000 members per month," which was a "steady increase," with "nothing in sight that indicates that that speed will be lessened."

In reviewing the controversy between the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization Mr. Morrison cited the fate of similar organizations with whose history he was personally familiar. He had lived through the period when the Knights of Labor attacked the American Federation of Labor, but the K. of L. passed into oblivion.

Then came, in succession, the Western Labor Union, the American Labor Union, the Industrial Workers of the World, and the One Big Union, all of them saturated with the industrial unionism idea—and all of them had finally entered the cemetery decorated by the Knights of Labor tomb. He predicted a similar rendezvous with death for the C. I. O.

The text of Mr. Morrison's address follows:

I want to express my appreciation of the introduction by my good friend, Frey, and the opportunity to address this convention. It has been quite a number of years since I addressed a convention of the Metal Trades Department, and I feel honored in having this opportunity to address you today.

First, I want to convey to you the message of President Green. He asked me to tell you that he is detained because of conferences and will not be able to reach here until probably Friday.

I know how busy you have been. You have been in the throes of debate for two days. I have read the reports in the newspapers and I know you have been active in carrying on the work that will be helpful to the metal trades of this country. So what I say will be just the last bit of information that I have in regard to the labor movement.

There is a great deal of talk and worry about just what the C. I. O. is doing to the American Federation of Labor organizations.

A. F. OF L. MEMBERSHIP TOTALS 3,271,726

Let me call your attention to the fact that the August, 1937, membership of the American Federation of Labor was 3,271,726. That is an increase in membership for the past twelve months of 831,726 members—and that means an increase, that means they paid their per capita tax into the national and international unions and into the local unions affiliated to the American Fed-

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Organization Campaign Has Added Million New Members to A. F. of L.

Executive Council Tells Denver Convention Great Progress Has Been Made In Heretofore Unorganized Fields and That "No Force Will Stop This Onward March of the American Federation of Labor To Organize the Unorganized of the Nation"; Recomemnds Continuance of Assessment of One Cent Per Month Per Member.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—A highly encouraging account of the achievements of the American Federation of Labor in organizing hitherto unorganized workers was presented by the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. to the Federation's annual convention here.

Pointing out that following the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States holding the National Labor Relations Act constitutional, workers everywhere, relieved of the "fear of discrimination and persecution" which was widespread before the Supreme Court's ruling, "showed both a willingness and a determination to become organized," the Executive Council's report continued:

PROGRESS IN UNORGANIZED INDUSTRIES

"As a consequence of these developments the organizing staff of the American Federation of Labor has been very greatly increased. These organizers are carrying on a systematic campaign of organization in every state, city and community throughout the entire country.

"Great progress has been made in heretofore unorganized fields such as cement, aluminum, flour and cereal milling, agriculture, packing houses and canneries, white collar groups, and other miscellaneous industries.

AFFILIATED UNIONS MARCH FORWARD

"In addition, national and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor have inaugurated and carried forward most successful organizing campaigns. As a result of this joint coordinated organizing work carried forward by national and international unions and the American Federation of Labor, approximately a million new members have been added to the American Federation of Labor.

"All of these are dues-paying members, men and women who show their determination to become organized through the payment of initiation fees and monthly dues.

ORGANIZING CAMPAIGN WILL BE CONTINUED

"It is the firm and determined purpose of the American Federation of Labor to organize the unorganized workers who desire to become organized and associated with an organiza-

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A. F. of L. Council Asks Power to Revoke Charters of 10 Suspended C. I. O. Unions

Tells Denver Convention That Despite Two Years of Endeavors To Promote a Settlement of the Controversy Through Conference and Negotiation, "Our Efforts in This Direction Were Rebuffed and Defeated," and That the "Confusion and Misunderstanding Regarding the Relationship to the American Federation of Labor of Organizations Holding Membership in the C. I. O. Must Be Terminated."

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—A detailed and well documented account of the establishment and disruptive activities of the Committee for Industrial Organization featured the report of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to the annual convention of the Federation here.

Step by step the Council recounted the work of the C. I. O. in spreading disloyalty among the American Federation of Labor unions, with a full account of the endeavors of the Executive Council to settle the controversy by negotiation through representatives of the two groups.

Confronted with indisputable evidence that the C. I. O. was a dual organization within the American Federation of Labor, the Council suspended ten of the component unions in September 1936. This action of the Council was approved by the 1936 convention of the Federation. Since then, the Council pointed out, continued efforts had been made to adjust the controversy, but that representatives of the C. I. O. refused to meet with representatives of the A. F. of L.

In concluding its account of the controversy and asking for the power of charter revocation the Executive Council said:

"The Executive Council and the American Federation of Labor not only issued a solemn warning against the creation of the C. I. O. and the pursuit of its splitting policy, but in addition has done everything within its power during the two years of the existence of the C. I. O. to heal the breach, to settle differences and to reestablish unity and solidarity within the ranks of Labor.

C. I. O. SPURNED CONFERENCES

"Our appeals for conferences were spurned and rejected. No conditions precedent to a conference were established by the Executive Council. The representatives of the C. I. O. were simply asked to meet and confer without stipulations or conditions. Entreaties, appeals and requests made by the Executive Council have been ignored.

"For two years we have pursued a policy of toleration. We have patiently and sincerely endeavored to promote a settlement through confer-

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Labor Board Exceeds Power Mediating Disputes, A. F. of L. Council Declares

Informs Denver Convention That in Settling Controversies the "Staff of the Board Has Sometimes Shown a Preference for the C. I. O."; Holds the Board's Legal Function Is to Prevent Employers from "Interfering With Employees in Joining Unions," and Insists That the Board's Action in Taking Up Conflicts Between Unions "Is Entirely Improper and We Believe Unlawful."

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—The National Labor Relations Act, whose stormy legislative journey through the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States Congress was protected and accelerated by the united support of the American Federation of Labor, was praised by the A. F. of L. Executive Council in its report to the annual convention of the Federation here.

But the administration of the Act by the National Labor Relations Board was both commended and criticized.

"It can be said truthfully," the report asserted, "that the Board to date has made a notable record in the mechanical administration of the Act. The Board in its decisions has laid down new principles in the law of employer-employe relationships and has elaborated on those principles hitherto expounded by it."

The report reviews in detail the record of the Labor Board in establishing the right to join and remain members of unions without interference from employers, the illegality of employers' discrimination against union members in terms of employment, the invalidity of the company union, and protecting the workers in the other rights laid down in the Act, and affirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States.

C. I. O. RAISED NEW PROBLEMS

"The purpose of the Act," the Council said, "is very simple—that is, to prevent employers from interfering with the right of their employees to organize."

But due in part to the advent of the Committee for Industrial Organization and in part to the exercise of functions not stipulated in the Act, the Labor Board, in the view of the Executive Council, was subject to criticism in its administration of the Act.

On these points the Executive Council said:

"Unfortunately there now is a rival or dual organization to the American Federation of Labor which was not foreseen when the Act was passed and the existance of which has created new

(Continued on Page 3)

Relentless War on C. I. O. Urged by Green in Keynote Address Opening American Federation of Labor Convention

"The Clock Has Struck; the Hour Is Here; You Are Here to Make the Decision; Having Appealed to Them for Two Years to Come Back, You Are Now Going to Say That Appeal Will No Longer Be Made, And This Convention, in My Judgment, Particularly If It Follows the Recommendation of the Executive Council, Will Order Your Board of Directors to Revoke the Charters of These International Unions Who Set Up This Dual Organization."

Editor's Note: In opening the 1937 convention of the American Federation of Labor at Denver, Colorado, on October 4, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, made a keynote speech outlining the historical development of the controversy with the Committee for Industrial Organization and recommending that the convention order the revocation of the charters of the ten C. I. O. unions which were suspended from membership in the A. F. of L. by the 1936 convention. In addition, Mr. Green denounced the dictatorships applied by Communism, Fascism and Nazism and pledged the united strength of the A. F. of L. against these subversive principles in the United States. He also deplored war as a method of settling international disputes, advocated continued neutrality by the American Government, and viewed with favor a boycott against those responsible for the atrocities in the Far East.

Preceding President Green's speech, Monsignor William O'Ryan, of St. Leo's Caholic Church, gave the invocation, and addresses of welcome were made by Edward E. Goshen, Chairman of the Convention Arrangements Committee; Hon. Teller Ammons, Governor of Colorado; Hon. Benj. F. Stapleton, Mayor of the City and County of Denver; George E. Collison, executive secretary of the Denver Chamber of Commerce; Albert Westfall, president of the United Veterans Council of Denver; James McCoy, superintendent of the Union Printers' Home at Colorado Springs; Mrs. Joe Pruss, president of the Denver Joint Council of Women's Auxiliaries; James A. Brownlow, vice president of the Colorado State Federation of Labor; William T. Webb, president of the Denver Building and Construction Trades Council, and Hugh Osborne, president of the Denver Trades and Labor Assembly.

The text of President Green's speech before the Denver Convention follows:

Mr. Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, your Excellency, Governor Ammons, your Honor, Mayor Stapleton, Monsignor O'Ryan, representatives of the organized labor movement of this state of Colorado and of the city of Denver, my distinguished colleagues of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, officers and delegates, visitors and friends in attendance at this convention of the American Federation of Labor—I welcome you all in the name and in behalf of the great organized labor movement of the United States and Canada. I thank these distinguished representatives who so cordially welcomed us this morning for their words of greetings and of hearty welcome.

I know I express to them your deep appreciation of all they said, of the sincere way in which they said it, and in the opportunity of us being permitted to be here and listen to their charming words of welcome. We shall, I know, enjoy our stay in this city. We shall enjoy the hospitality of the people of the state and of the city. We are indeed happy in that we are privileged to carry on our deliberations in such a friendly atmosphere.

I know we shall go from here at the close of our convention back to our homes, to our loved ones and to our cities and to our communities carrying with us most delightful memories of a pleasant visit spent in the city of Denver.

We assemble, I know, this morning, conscious of our responsibility. You traveled here from all sections of the country. You came from the cities, the states and the communities which make up our great republic.

There never can assemble in any city in the United States a more representative body than is assembled in this auditorium this morning. And because of events which have transpired and are daily transpiring, we approach the consideration of our common problems and we participate in the deliberations of this great congress of labor with a deep sense of our personal responsibility.

But, true to the traditional policies pursued by the American Federation of Labor, this great 57th Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor will not be found wanting. It will measure up and maintain the high standards set by the 56 preceding conventions of the American Federation of Labor.

Rugged, courageous men, unafraid, we will meet our common problems ably, and here in this open forum of debate we will settle our questions in an orderly way, and whatever differences of opinion may exist, when debate is closed and the end of the chapter is reached and we march back to our homes we will go out a united body, determined to meet our common foe.

We shall emphasize in this convention, as we have in every other convention of the American Federation of Labor, the importance of democratic procedure and democratic control. I invite the public here to attend the convention of the American Federation of Labor, to be present at all of its sessions if you can, and here you will see an exhibition of democracy in action. And because as American citizens first and as solid, loyal, devoted trade unionists second, we believe in democracy, or democratic form of government, our democratic institutions, the rule of the people and the will of the majority, and because we believe in those things we will never, never surrender to a minority.

The American people owe much during these days to the American Federation of Labor, and when they understand the real issue involved in the conflict which has so seriously caused a division in the house of labor, they will more and more appreciate the great service which the American Federation of Labor is rendering toward our Republic and toward the preservation of democracy and democratic procedure.

We are not influenced by materialism. We cannot be influenced by materialistic considerations. Because we cannot and will not, it is our determination to fight and struggle to fight on and on for the preservation of those eternal, intangible principles of democracy, freedom and liberty.

DEMOCRACY IS THE ISSUE DIVIDING LABOR MOVEMENT

May I announce to you now that the real issue in the conflict which has divided the ranks of labor and which has attracted the attention of the people everywhere is one clear-cut issue, that of democratic procedure and democratic control.

Those who seek to justify their actions in the creation of a dual, rival movement to the American Federation of Labor cannot and will not be permitted to obscure that issue.

They may say it is something else and they may, through saying it is something else, attempt to appeal to the passons and the feelings of the workers. But facts are facts, and they are stubborn things and cannot be destroyed.

The facts are these, that those who set up a rival, dual movement to this great organization of labor are those who were fairly and honestly defeated in a convention of the American Federation of Labor two years ago. Because this issue must be kept clear and understandable I must refer to that incident.

DEMOCRATIC CONTROL IN 1935 CONVENTION

Only two short years ago the great American Federation of Labor met in a convention where we were united and when we were united on a strong, unified and solidified basis. The representatives of all organizations chartered by the American Federation of Labor participated in that convention.

It was indeed a congress of labor, and in democratic fashion, administrative and organization policies were submitted for consideration and determination. That has been the historic policy of our movement.

Its members demand that the American Federation of Labor be kept close to the rank and file, and for that reason they demand that we meet not in life-long intervals, but every year, annually, so that in accordance with the changing modern conditions the will of the rank and file may be properly registered in the administrative and organization policies of the American Federation of Labor.

During the two weeks we met in the convention at Atlantic City two years ago we dealt with every problem that was submitted. Every delegate in that convention was clothed with authority to submit any question for consideration, debate and determination. It was truly democratic, governed by parliamentary procedure and orderly processes. We threshed out every question.

It is inconceivable that a great body coming from all sections of the country, such as the representatives of labor who participate in annual conventions would be of one mind. There are differences of opinion, as there are in all democratic bodies and as there has been in every convention of the American Federation of Labor.

Those differences of opinion were registered. Men entered into the discussions of the questions, and I know I can say that no convention ever meets where questions are more carefully considered than in conventions of the American Federation of Labor.

MAJORITY WON BY BIG MARGIN

There was majority and minority representation on practically every question. The majority of the delegates believed one way and a minority believed another. You find that in all organizations, even in the family. When the vote was taken honestly and aboveboard and in accordance with parliamentary procedure, the majority registered its will and the minority did likewise.

Well, my friends, we always declared when a vote was taken that the question has been determined by a majority vote and it is so ordered. And the delegates in the convention, self-disciplined, believed in democratic rule and democratic procedure, and accepted the decision of the majority as determining the question at issue.

Well, there came one question before this great congress of labor two years ago upon which a majority and a minority report was submitted by the convention committee which handled the question. And the widest opportunity was given for discussion and debate, and there in the crucible of debate the question was determined.

I know I can say without fear of contradiction that no one could claim he or she were denied a right to enter into a discussion of the question. And when the vote was taken, by a majority of 2 to 1, the question was determined. Was that not decisive? It is not by a mere majority of one or two or five or ten, but a registered majority of 2 to 1.

MINORITY FORMED C. I. O. TO OVERTHROW MAJORITY DECISION

For 56 years a vote of that kind would have settled the question. For more than half a century we had accepted the majority decision of the great convention.

What happened then to change that policy of more than half a century? The minority who participated in the convention and who, through their participation in the convention, indicated their willingness to dispose of the question in democratic fashion, refused, my friends, to abide by the will of the majority, and that is the reason why there is a dual movement in the labor organization today, and it is for no other reason under the sun.

Following the adjournment of the convention this minority group formed an organization called the Committee for Industrial Organization. And when it was formed it was publicly announced by the spokesman of this new movement that it was formed for the purpose of putting a minority report of the Atlantic City convention into effect.

A new procedure was announced, a complete reformation and change. Now it was to be the rule of the minority. And so the Committee for Industrial Organization was formed and set up with its spokesman, its self-assumed representatives, and it has been functioning ever since.

Now, let me ask you, is there any democratic body in America that would yield to minority rule?

I ask the representatives of the Church, would you permit a minority to formulate the policies of a great religious organization?

I ask the Mayor of this city if it is not the rule that when an election is held the candidate elected by a majority vote is the officer elected?

I ask all organizations that are formed and functioning as deliberate bodies if they are governed by a minority or by a majority rule?

MINORITY RULE MUST NOT PREVAIL

Well, that is what the American Federation of Labor is fighting for, the preservation of democracy, of the will of the majority when legally and rightfully recorded, the expression of the rank and file through their duly chosen representatives in orderly fashion and in a deliberate way.

There is the issue. They say it is something else. I say it is nothing else.

Organization policies have been adopted by the American Federation of Labor, and when they are adopted we apply them in the broadest and most comprehensive way.

A. F. OF L. CHARTERS INDUSTRIAL UNIONS

It is mighty significant that the one great organization chartered by the American Federation of Labor, which is the leader in the formation of this dual movement, is an industrial organization chartered by the American Federation of Labor more than 40 years ago.

And most of the other organizations associated with that organization were given the same broad grant of jurisdiction, not by a dual movement, but by the great parent body, the American Federation of Labor.

In the industries where they complained little organization had been carried on the American Federation of Labor pioneered, organized them, set up national charters giving them jurisdiction upon a broad and comprehensive basis. That wipes out the claim that some other question was at the basis of this withdrawal and this division.

C. I. O. LEADER PLAGUED BY DUAL MOVEMENTS

Another significant feature of it is this, that the leader in the establishment of this dual movement represented an organization that has been plagued by dual movements more than any other organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and it is strange indeed that in setting up this dual movement the leader of this organization most plagued by dualism called upon those who had led the dual movement in his own union to come and serve him in an official capacity.

DIVISION IN LABOR RANKS CAUSED BY C. I. O.

Now, my friends, this is the issue. There would be no division in the ranks of labor if no Committee for Industrial Organization had been set up. The American Federation of Labor is going along and was going along as it ever had been. We welcomed the representatives of organizations to full affiliation and participation in the affairs of the American Federation of Labor.

We have never asked one of them to surrender an opinion upon trade union philosophy as a condition precedent to affiliation with our great body. We asked them to come into the open forum of debate with their opinions, their suggestions and their recommendations, and we say to them, "If you can win a majority of the delegates to your point of view, amen, all right, but you must do it in democratic, orderly fashion and not in accordance with minority rule or the rule of the jungle."

With patience we have pleaded with the representatives of these organizations to dissolve their dual movement

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Morrison Says C. I. O. Will Wind Up In Graveyard of Many Similar Fallacies

(Continued from Page 1)

eration of Labor. That does not represent an enrolled membership. That is the greatest gain by several hundred thousand ever made in the history of the American Federation of Labor.

I want to carry the thought in your mind that the American Federation of Labor is traveling along at an increase of about 65,000 to 67,000 members per month, a steady increase, and there is nothing in sight that indicates that that speed will be lessened. It seems to me that is a very wonderful gain.

LABOR UNDER THE N. R. A.

Now let us look at the situation for just a moment as I see it. When the N. R. A. came into effect and the labor people read and heard that because of the N. R. A. they would be able to organize without being discriminated against, they believed it, and the number of charters that were issued and the growth in membership was proof that they were inspired by the enactment of that law in regard to the N. R. A.

But what did we find? We found that while the law was all right the discrimination continued and there was no way to reach the employers who refused to be decent.

Then the Supreme Court swept the N. R. A. off the board, and the American Federaion of Labor proceeded immediately to secure the enactment of another law with teeth in it that would insure the workers against discrimination for joining a union.

LABOR ACT BENEFITS WORKERS

And so we got the Wagner Labor Relations Act that contained certain beneficial features. But we have never had a law yet enacted that did not require some amendment to give to the workers just those things that they expected they had under the law. And so we are now up to the Wagner Labor Relations Act, which we can call an ally to help the great trade union movement, the one hundred national and international organizations who are adding day by day, week by week, month by month, thousands of members to the American Federation of Labor.

I want to say to you that I am hopeful—in fact, I am more than hopeful, and I am sure it will not be so many years before we will have a fairly united movement.

IMPORTANCE OF LABOR UNITY

Nine members here, nine presidents of international unions certainly have as much right to form a committee for industrial organization or for trade union organization as those organizations who formed the Committee for Industrial Organization, a committee that was self-appointed.

But that is not how the American Federaion of Labor has made progress. It has made progress by complying with the constitution and the decisions of the Federation, working as a unit to bring about better conditions for the workers.

I could talk for half an hour about the many laws that have been enacted that have been helpful, but it just occurred to me that I might remind you that this is not the first time we have had a dual movement.

KNIGHTS OF LABOR TRIED TO CAPTURE TRADE UNIONS

I can recollect, and there are many here who will recollect the Knights of Labor. They were formed and thousands and thousands flocked into their organization—everybody in one union—and they were going to change the whole labor movement. They started out to capture the trade unions, and the trade unions started to fight, and as a result of that fight the Knights of Labor have passed out of existence and they are only a memory.

WESTERN LABOR UNION COLLAPSED

You will remember the Western Labor Union, backed by the Western Federation of Miners. They had a little political organization on the side and they formed an organization, the Western Federation of Labor, and they took in in the intermountain district a number of unions of national and international unions. For a number of years they fretted these international unions and gave them trouble.

AMERICAN LABOR UNION DIED

I attended the convention of the Western Federation of Labor in Denver when the Western Federation of Labor met there many years ago. Eugene V. Debs then said, "I am sure you should change your name from the Western Labor Union to the American Labor Union and start down through the East, where there are hundreds of thousands of workers ready to rally to your banner." He also said, "The trade union movement is 100 years behind your movement." I told them they were 100 years behind the American labor movement.

I. W. W. EXPIRED

And what has happened? The Western Labor Union, the American Labor Union have passed out of existence and the American Federation of Labor still lives. Then we had the I. W. W. which gave a great deal of trouble and which gradually split into three parts. They had three organizations. Now they have disbanded and they are but a memory.

ONE BIG UNION MET DEATH

Then we had the One Big Union, and they were going to capture the trade union movement and show them how to carry on their work. And who hears about the One Big Union now? They, too, are only a memory.

NOW COMES THE C. I. O.

And so today we have the C. I. O., the Committee for Industrial Organization, a self-appointed committee, appointed for the purpose of showing the trade union movement a short-cut to organizing the workers of our country.

They have not one argument and nothing to show that they can organize these workers under an industrial form as satisfactorily and as efficiently as the work is being carried on by the American Federation of Labor.

AND A. F. OF L. MEMBERSHIP PASSES THREE MILLION

But it is something new, it is something that a man can go out and talk about, what is going to happen, when he has nothing to show that there is any reason it should happen. I say that it has caused some confusion, it has caused an intense feeling of resentment against these men who are trying to confuse and weaken the trade union movement.

My friends, the American Federation of Labor still stands, a hundred national and international unions with a membership at the present time of over 3,200,000, not counting the membership of the unions suspended for refusal to withdraw from a dual organization, not counting the last two that withdrew from the Federation, the Fur Workers and the Newspaper Writers. Think of it—3,200,000!

While this new movement has taken away a membership of nearly a million in the short space of time that it has been in existence, that amount of membership has practically been replaced during the last twelve months through the increase in membership which the Federation has enjoyed.

CENTRAL LABOR UNIONS BAR C. I. O. LOCALS

I want to call your attention to something else. The Federation has a law in its constitution which provides that no seceding union or no union whose charter has been revoked can be seated in a central body or state body.

It is true that that law was held in abeyance with the idea of some of our good friends that this matter would be adjusted. But the law is being enforced today in city central bodies and in state federations, and with few exceptions every central body and state body that has been called upon has responded and has suspended from its membership all local unions that held charters from any one of the ten suspended organizations.

Some men expressed the belief that the central bodies and state bodies would not respond. The Illinois state body, the Chicago Federation of Labor, the New York State body, the New York central body, Seattle, Portland, and Los Angeles responded immediately when they were called. There was some delay where Bridges held sway in the central body of San Francisco, but I understand that they have suspended all C. I. O. unions from that organization.

Philadelphia was one of the first that responded when they were called upon. And so I want to say that we have over 800 central bodies that are standing by to assist the American Federation of Labor in holding their lines tight and to continue the work of the organization.

Where there have been one or two state bodies or one or two central bodies that have hesitated, arrangements have been made to issue charters to such bodies to tried trade unionists to take care of the labor movement in those states and cities.

C. I. O. IS FADING AWAY

And so I feel that as matters stand the American Federation of Labor is forging ahead, and if I am not mistaken, if my membership in the labor movement, if my experience as an officer of the American Federation of Labor has gained any knowledge for me on which to base a prophecy, I say that the C. I. O. is now gradually fading away and they will be a memory to you young men and to you middle aged men.

I hope I will live to see the day when they are a memory, just the same as the Wesern Federation of Labor, the Western Labor Union, the I. W. W., and the One Big Union. The C. I. O. will pass out of existence and it will be forgotten as a dream, an idea of a few men who are willing to take the gamble in the trade union movement to establish some other system of organization.

1,144,930 NEW MEMBERS ARE GAINED BY THE A. F. OF L.

Paid-Up Membership Totals 3,271,726, Secretary-Treasurer Morrison Reports to Denver Convention.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—The tremendous increase in members of the unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor was strikingly revealed in the report made by Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the A. F. of L., to the Federation's annual convention here. In a summary of this important achievement, Mr. Morrison's report said:

"Total membership for the month of August, 1937, for affiliated organizations is 3,271,726 (not including the membership of the suspended National and International Unions or the two which withdrew), which shows an increase of 1,144,930 members over the average membership of fiscal year ending August 31, 1933, and an increase of 831,671 members during the past twelve months.

"National and International Unions are required to pay per capita tax upon their full paid-up membership and, therefore, the membership does not include all members who were unemployed during the fiscal year."

There was included in the report an interesting summary of the average yearly membership of the American Federation of Labor in the past 41 years. Beginning with 1897, the membership was 264,825. In 1902 the membership for the first time exceeded one million, the exact figures being 1,024,399. In 1914 the members totaled 2,020,671; in 1920, 4,078,740; in 1922, 3,195,635; in 1927, 2,812,526; in 1929, 2,933,545; in 1933, 2,126,796; in 1935, 3,045,347; and in August, 1937, the membership, not including ten suspended national and international unions and two unions which withdrew during 1937, reached 3,271,726.

Mr. Morrison also submitted a chart showing the numbers of the various unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. The chart included 100 national and international unions with 28,642 local unions; 1,406 local trade and Federal labor unions directly affiliated with the A. F. of L.; 49 State federations of labor, and 738 city central bodies. In addition there are four departments (Metal Trades, Union Label Trades, Building and Construction Trades, and Railroad Employes) with 712 local department councils.

RAIL EMPLOYES PENSIONS EXEMPTED FROM U. S. TAX

Revenue Bureau Also Holds That Cost of Lunches is "Wages" Under Social Security Act.

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—Pensions paid by the Railroad Retirement Board are exempt from Federal income tax; the Internal Revenue Bureau has ruled, bringing needed relief to many retired railroad workers who can ill afford deductions. The ruling is based upon a section of the law which provides that such pensions are not subject to any tax, "garnishment, attachment or other legal process."

Pensions may eventually amount to several million dollars annually.

The bureau also ruled that the value of the lunches should be included in wages in computing tax payments under the social security act.

STEADY A. F. OF L. PROGRESS CITED BY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Report to Denver Conventon Declares That Economic Power Mechanized by Union Organization Is the Workers' Greatest Strength; Work Week Has Been Reduced 15 Hours and Buying Power of Toilers Increased 30 Per Cent; Union Growth Aided By Labor Relations Act, Which Lessens Employers' Control Over Lives of Working Men and Women.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—Definite achievements of the American Federation of Labor in every field of union activity were recounted by the A. F. of L. Executive Council in its Report to the Officers and Delegates of the Fifty-Seventh Annual Convention of the Federation here.

The broad scope of progress for working men and women marching under the banner of the A. F. of L. outlined by the Council includes larger trade union membership, facilitated in part by the enactment of the National Labor Relations Act, which gives legal validity to the right of workers to organize without interference from employers; higher living standards secured by heavy reductions in the length of the work week and larger buying power through increased wages, a decrease of many millions in the unemployed army, unemployment compensation laws enacted by the Federal Government and every State government, protection for the aged by the Federal old age annuity system and State old age pensions subsidized by the Federal Government, and a host of other achievements in both the economic and legislative fields secured by the strength of the unions united in the American Federation of Labor.

In reviewing these remarkable achievements, the Executive Council said:

"The past year has been one of crucial significance in the history of the American labor movement. It has brought a steady widening of the schism that has rent our organized activity as well as a period of an unprecedented growth in numbers and in the negotiation of collective agreements. Increased business activity brought its customary business improvement, though with somewhat less than the customary accompanying employment opportunities.

"Though the number of unemployed continues to remain dangerously high, those who have jobs are raising their hourly rates and are preventing an increase in the weekly hours of work.

"Union progress is evident in practically every national and international affiliated to the American Federation of Labor as well as in the federal labor unions directly affiliated.

BENEFITS FROM LABOR RELATIONS ACT

"Impetus to union growth followed directly upon the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court decision upholding the constitutionality of the Wagner Labor Relations Act which guarantees workers opportunity to exercise their right to union membership.

"Only the guarantee of Society can protect workers against the various practices employers use to prevent workers from joining unions under fear of loss of employment. Control over the chance to earn one's bread amounts to absolute control over other men's lives. Placing in public hands maintenance of the right to union membership has been a most strategic initial move in the development of a national labor policy.

"We face grave problems—problems that will tax our wisdom and ability to the utmost. Joining a union is the first step in a new philosophy of life which implies intelligent responsibility for promoting one's own welfare. Union members must be educated into trade unionists who know their rights and their responsibilities and who intelligently function as members in the national labor movement.

A. F. OF L. ACHIEVEMENTS

"The years ahead hold rich opportunity for the organized labor movement.

"The American Federation of Labor has now concluded its fifty-seventh year of service and has built up a record of which it is justly proud. The Federation undertook the responsibility of creating a national labor movement when there were less than two score national organizations of trade unions and only a scattered organization of workers into local unions with no national affiliation. Amalgamated central bodies existed in the larger industrial communities.

GROWTH OF NATIONAL UNIONS

"Through the Federation local unions were organized, welded into national units, tied in with the members of other unions through central bodies, state federations and the Federation itself, until we developed a widespread chain of human beings, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from our southern border up through Canada and Alaska. This linked chain of human groups cooperating is perhaps the strongest single human institution in the country effective in all relationships of life that concern workers.

"The Federation has helped to make the labor movement an accepted national institution beginning with the time when unions were practically outlaw organizations, until now when the right to union membership is guaranteed by the Federal Government.

EXTENSION OF LABOR LAWS

"Starting with practically no labor laws on the statute books of our Federal Government and various States, there is now a substantial body of protective and remedial labor legislation representing resourceful and intelligent work by local branches as well as the national and federated organizations.

"The Federation has worked for State bureaus of labor statistics and State departments of labor, as well as parallel federal agencies.

"Federation activity has been a determining factor in securing labor legislation.

"The influence of the Federation has steadily forced improvements in our public school system and wider educational opportunities. We have been especially concerned for public schools and libraries for these are our educational dependencies for ourselves and our children.

IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC POWER

"The basis of our effectiveness in political and social fields has been our growing economic power. We organized for collective bargaining with employers in order that we might have fair standards of hours and work and good working conditions. Collective bargaining gave us a new status in industry. We were recognized as an essential functional group within industry with rights as well as responsibilities.

HOURS REDUCED; WAGES RAISED

"We have reduced the work week 15 hours and increased our buying power 30 per cent with a resulting higher standard of living. We have steadily raised the level of collective bargaining conferences between employers and employees.

"Union executives now know as much about the management and financial conditions of their companies as do the business executives. Our policies and proposals have always been constructive and not destructive. We have sought our advantage and welfare as integral parts of the industries employing us, assuming that prosperity for our industries and companies means progress for us provided we are in a position to bargain for a fair division of returns from joint work.

BUSINESS RECORDS MUST BE OPEN TO UNION REPRESENTATIVES

"As Labor is a participating partner in production procedures and directly affected by the business status of the company, all financial and production records should be freely available to the duly chosen representatives of the work force.

"The work force is historically the first human element in production, and it now seeks to regain its lost heritage of partnership from which owners of capital have ejected it.

"Labor recognizes the rights of other groups necessary to production and would not interfere with them, but it does resent usurpation of workers rights and the building up of special privileges by abusing strategic control.

"We believe that there should be for workers attached to a work force a fundamental job security growing out of their investment of work in the enterprise. Accompanying acceptance of their right to a job, we must make more explicit workers' rights in their jobs.

"The organized labor movement believes that the important and enduring things in life are kindness, fellowship, and cooperation. By irony of circumstances we are forced to concentrate on contending for justice wth respect to the material things of life so that we have all too little time for opportunities for higher living."

LABOR BOARD'S ALLEGED C. I. O. BIAS DISCUSSED

A. F. of L. Executive Council Says This Belief By the Public Was Fostered During the Automobile and Steel Disputes.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—The question of whether the activities of the National Labor Relations Board have afforded a basis for the opinion that it has exhibited favoritism toward the Committee for Industrial Organization was considered by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the Federation's annual convention here.

Referring specifically to the automobile and steel strikes of this year, the Council said:

"The Board has rightfully adopted the policy of not initiating any action itself. The Act specifically provides, with respect to unfair labor practices, that the Board shall act only upon a charge concerning the commission of an unfair labor practice filed with it.

"Under its present procedure any employee or group of employees or union are required to file its petition with the Board or a Regional Office and to show such facts as will justify the Board to proceed to a settlement of the question of representation.

"As a consequence, the Board to date has not voluntarily assumed jurisdiction over any dispute—in the first instance because it is not authorized, in the other as a matter of policy.

"The policy of the Board in this respect seems to us to be wise except for the fact that it opens up to opponents to the Board the opportunity to arouse adverse public opinion.

"If the Board at the outset of the automobile strikes and disorders last winter had investigated and certified representatives for the purposes of collective bargaining in the automobile plants involved it could have averted that long and costly struggle.

"Then, too, by accepting charges against the independent steel companies it laid itself wide open to the charge of partisanship in that, while it had the power to do so, it did not investigate the real cause of the struggle, namely the question of representation which the steel unions asserted was the whole issue.

"In these two instances, it gave the public good grounds for the belief that it was decidedly pro-C. I. O."

DYE HOUSE WORKERS HAVE BROAD SCOPE

New A. F. of L. Affiliate is Making Fine Progress, A. F. of L. Executive Council Reports.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—Outstanding achievements in the interest of cleaners and dyers organized in the International Association of Cleaning and Dye House Workers, chartered by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, was reported by the Council to the annual convention of the Federation in session here.

In recounting the circumstances which led up to issuing the charter, the jurisdiction granted the new union, and its success, the Executive Council said:

"Pursuant to the instruction of the Tampa Convention, an International Association of Cleaning and Dye House workers was formed.

"This action was taken at a conference of representatives of the federal labor unions composed of cleaners and dyers held in the Council Room of the American Federation of Labor on January 21, 1937.

"Jurisdiction was granted to this International Association over those employed as dry cleaners, dry cleaning spotters, dry cleaning pressers, dry cleaning checkers, dry cleaning markers, dry cleaning packers, dry cleaning washers, and dyers employed in dry cleaning establishments, and all other persons employed in dry cleaning establishments who work on dry cleaned garments.

"This international organization has made substantial progress in the organization of workers who come under its jurisdiction. The Executive Council and the American Federation of Labor are cooperating fully with the officers and members of this International Association in carrying on organizing work among those employed in the cleaning and dyeing industry."

910 NEW CHARTERS ISSUED BY A. F. OF L.

List Reported by Secretary Morrison Includes 3 National and International Unions, 38 Central Labor Unions, 586 Local Trade Unions, and 283 Federal Labor Unions.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, revealed the success of the organizing achievements of the A. F. of L. in organizing the workers during the last year by reporting to the convention here the number of new unions chartered by the Federation's Executive Council.

During the twelve months ending August 31, 1937, 910 charters were granted. Three of them were for the following national and international unions:

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; International Association of Cleaning and Dye House Workers; International Ladies Handbag, Pocketbook and Novelty Workers Union.

Thirty-eight central labor unions were chartered in the following towns:

Alaska—Juneau, Cordova.
Arizona—Yuma County, Prescott.
California—Alameda County, Merced County, Palm Springs, San Joaquin County, Pomona, Contra Costa County.
Colorado—Boulder City, Greeley.
Florida—Lakeland, Panama City.
Illinois—Clinton County, Eldorado, Washington County.
Kansas—Atchison.
Kentucky—Ashland.
Massachusetts—Franklin County.
Mississippi—McComb.
Montana—Butte.
New Jersey—Monmouth and Ocean Counties.
New York—Peekskill.
Ohio—Columbus.
Oregon—Tillamook, Clackamas County, Medford and Vicinity, Pendleton.
Tennessee—Pickwick.
Utah—Utah County.
Virginia—Alexandria.
Washington—Grand Coulee, Ellensburg, Bellingham and Vicinity.
West Virginia—Marshall County, Fayette County, Wyoming County.

In addition, Mr. Morrison reported, charters were issued during the year to 586 local trade unions and 283 federal labor unions, directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

A. F. OF L. ZINC AND LEAD MINERS' UNION PROSPERS

Executive Council Reports New Affiliate Is Satisfactorily Promoting Interests of Workers Covered by Metal Miners Group.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—The following account of the charter issued to the Blue Card Union of Zinc and Lead Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers was given by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the annual convention of the Federation in session here:

"A substantial group of Zinc and Lead Miners employed in the metal mines of the Tri-District in Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas, was organized and admitted into membership in the American Federation of Labor. These Zinc and Lead Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers made application to the Executive Council for a charter of affiliation.

"The jurisdiction applied for on the charter application for these local unions covers metal mine, mill and smelter workers.

"This application was considered by the Executive Council at its meeting held in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the month of May, 1937. The Executive Council decided that inasmuch as the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers International Union had severed its relationship with the American Federation of Labor and had accepted membership in the Committee for Industrial Organization, the Council could with perfect propriety respond favorably to the application of these metal miners for affiliation with the American Federation of Labor.

"The affiliation of this group with the American Federation of Labor has proved to be both helpful and satisfactory to all concerned. We are confident that through said affiliation and the establishment of a cooperative relationship, that the economic and industrial interests of these metal miners can be promoted in a most substantial and satisfactory way."

PROGRESSIVE MINERS SUPPORTED BY A. F. OF L.

Executive Council Tells Denver Convention That Affiliation "Has Proved To Be Most Satisfactory and Beneficial to All Concerned."

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—The affiliation of the Progressive Miners of America with the American Federation of Labor has been and undoubtedly will continue to be beneficial to both groups, according to the report of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to the annual convention of the Federation in session here.

With regard to the affiliation and the results already achieved, the Executive Council said:

"The Progressive Miners of America, numbering 35,000 members, made formal application for affiliation with the American Federation of Labor on May 22, 1937.

"The Executive Council at its meeting held in Cincinnati during the month of May 1937, responded favorably and accepted the Progressive Miners of America into affiliation with the American Federation of Labor.

"This affiliated relationship established with the Progressive Miners of America has proved to be most satisfactory and beneficial to all concerned.

"It was the opinion of the Executive Council that inasmuch as the United Mine Workers of America, whose officers led in the establishment of the Committee for Industrial Organization and who were largely if not altogether responsible for the setting up of the dual, rival movement, was no longer affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, that the application of the Progressive Miners of America who, without solicitation on the part of anyone connected with the American Federation of Labor, made application for affiliation, could be accepted.

"The Progressive Miners of America therefore are now a part of the American Federation of Labor. They have shown themselves to be in full accord with the aims, principles and policies of the American Federation of Labor and loyal to it. We look forward to the development of a most helpful and beneficial reciprocal relationship between the Progressive Miners of America and the American Federation of Labor."

Organization Campaign Has Added Million New Members to A. F. of L.

(Continued from Page 1)

tion such as the American Federation of Labor which for more than half a century has championed the principles of collective bargaining, of freedom to organize and to strike, and to use every honorable and legal means in the promotion of strikes for high wages and improved conditions of employment.

"It is the fixed and determined purpose of the Executive Council to go on and on in support of campaigns launched by the American Federation of Labor and of national and international unions affiliated with it for the purpose of organizing the unorganized workers of the Nation.

VICTORY IS CERTAIN

"We are confident we will win in this great contest. We are sure the workers of the nation will turn to a responsible organization such as the American Federation of Labor, firmly established for more than half a century in the economic and industrial life of the nation.

"The fighting spirit of the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor has been aroused as never before. The word defeat cannot be found in the vocabulary of those who fight and serve the American Federation of Labor. Our efforts to organize will be increased, our organizing staff will carry on a militant and aggressive organizing campaign.

CENTRAL BODIES ASSIST

"Our state federations of labor and city central bodies, purged of those who would transform them into agencies of a dual, rival organization, united in a common purpose and established upon a sound and solid American Federation of Labor basis, will take such action as may be necessary in order to protect and advance the interests of the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor.

"We are going forward, determined to win. No force will stop this onward march of the American Federation of Labor to organize the unorganized of the Nation.

CONTINUANCE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT URGED

"In order to continue the aggressive, militant organizing campaign which is now being carried on by the American Federation of Labor, the Council recommends that the Convention authorize the continuance of the assessment of one cent per member per month, which was endorsed and approved by the conference of representatives of national and international unions which was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, May 24-25, 1937.

"With the financial income to the American Federation of Labor which will flow from the payment of this one cent assessment we can not only continue but increase and accelerate the organizing campaign which has been so successfully carried on during the past year. The Council regards this question as of tremendous importance. We urge favorable action upon it by the Convention."

Liberalization of Social Security Act Is Urged By A. F. of L. Council

Delegates to Denver Convention Are Told Millions of Workers Are Barred from Old Age Annuities and Unemployment Compensation; Transfer of Social Security Board to Labor Department Recommended.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—The general principle underlying the Federal Social Security Act is commendable. But in order that it shall be adequate to meet the economic and social needs of American working men and women for whose benefit it was enacted, it must be amended in a number of directions.

This was the substance of the report on "Social Security" made by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to the Federation's annual convention here.

Declaring that "the administration of social security is primarily a labor problem," the Council held that because of this fact "the Social Security Board should be located in the Department of Labor so that there may be that coordination of labor principals, labor laws and labor administration that will give us a national labor policy," adding:

"Since the Department of Labor is the one Federal agency that is concerned with the promotion of labor progress and welfare, it is the only logical agency to be charged with responsibility of administering the rights of labor. It is important that this change should be made now in the formative period of administrative policies."

MILLIONS ARE IN EXCLUDED GROUPS

Pointing out that although there are in the United States as of June, 1937 44,466,000 persons employed in gainful pursuits, the Council contrasted with this number the fact that only 29,000,000 are registered for old age benefits under the Social Security Act.

One of the major reasons for this discrepancy, the Council said, is the fact that the Act "specifically excludes wage earners in the following industries: agriculture, domestic service, casual labor, all service performed by persons over 65 years of age; government service; service performed by officers or members of a crew of a documented vessel; service for a community chest or organization operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purpose."

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXEMPTIONS

In addition to workers on strike being disqualified from unemployment compensation by the provisions of the Social Security Act, the Council listed the following groups also "excluded in the Federal requirement: agricultural labor, domestic servants in private homes; service on vessels in navigable waters of the United States; service performed in the employ of son, daughter, or spouse, and service performed by a child under the age of 21 in the employ of father or mother; service performed in the employ of the U. S. government or an instrumentality of the United States; service performed for state, or political subdivision thereof; of an instrumentality of one or more political subdivisions thereof; service in the employ of a corporation, community chest, fund or foundation, organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, any part of the net earnings of which enures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual."

Commenting on these exclusions under the Federal law, the Council said "State laws have generally followed the exemptions of the Federal Act, which, however, are not obligatory on the part of the States."

RECOMMENDATIONS

Firmly convinced that a number of amendments to the Act are necessary for the adequate protection of working men and women against indigency from both employment and old age, the Executive Council said:

"The adoption of the Social Security Act, with all its desirable and practical features, was secured through the influence and support of the American Federation of Labor.

"The constant earnest and sincere appeals of the Executive Officers of the American Federation of Labor, State Federations of Labor and City Central Bodies, local organizations, and the individual membership of organized labor were centered upon members of Congress.

"The concentrated and unanimous demand made upon Congress for the enactment of this measure by the organized workers of the nation and their friends so influenced the members of Congress in favor of the measure as to make its enactment into law an assured fact.

"The Social Security Act in its present form is far from perfect and for that reason should be amended so as to conform to the needs of the existing social and economic situation existing within the United States.. For that reason the Executive Council makes the following specific recommendations:

COVERAGE FOR ALL WORKERS IN AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

"First, that the Social Security Act be amended so as to provide coverage for agricultural workers, and that said coverage shall apply to all employees in work-shops, mills, mines and factories.

REMOVE BAN ON STRIKERS

"Second, that exemption of those engaged in legitimate strikes be stricken from the measure.. It is the opinion of the Executive Council that all who may be forced to engage in legitimate strikes should be covered by the provisions of the Social Security Act.

MINIMUM MONTHLY PENSION OF $30

"Third, that within five years after taxes to be used in financing the Social Security Act are ordered paid, that Old Age Pensions of not less than Thirty Dollars per month be paid to those who come within the scope and provisions of the Act.

EXEMPT WORKERS FROM UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TAX.

"Fourth, that in the different states where employees are required through the imposition of a tax to contribute toward unemployment insurance, said tax provisions be repealed. We maintain that the entire cost for unemployment insurance should be borne by industry. Workers who are the victims of unemployment should not be required to contribute out of their net earnings into unemployment insurance funds."

A. F. OF L. CONVENTION POWER TO LEVY ASSESSMENTS IS URGED

Executive Council Says Change In Constitution Is Necessary To Meet Revenue Requirements.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—Unforseen emergency conditions developing from time to time make it necessary for the American Federation of Labor to have larger income than results from the per capita tax on affiliated unions, according to the report of the A. F. of L. Executive Council to the annual convention of the Federation in session here.

To provide this income the Council recommended incorporating in the Federation constitution a provision authorizing the conventions of the Federation to levy assessments.

Pointing out that experience during the past year has "disclosed weaknesses, omissions and conflicts of present constitutional provisions relating to the revenue of the Federation and especially with reference to assessments," the Council recommended as necessary "to meet this situation" that Article X, Section 1 of the A. F. of L. constitution be amended by adding to it this section:

"Revenue may also be derived from assessments when and as ordered by a majority vote of a convention."

The Executive Council said that when amended the section would read as follows:

"Section 1. The revenue of the Federation shall be derived from a per capita tax to be paid upon the full paid-up membership of all affiliated bodies, as follows: From International or National Trade Unions, a per capita tax of 1 cent per member per month; from Local Trade Unions and Federal Labor Unions, 35 cents per member per month, 12½ cents of which must be set aside to be used only in the case of strike or lockout unless otherwise ordered by the Executive Council; the amount received by the American Federation of Labor on each initiation fee from all directly affiliated local unions shall be 25 per cent of the total initiation fee received by the local union from the individual, but in no case shall the amount received by the American Federation of Labor be less than $1; from Central and State Bodies $10 per year, payable quarterly. **Revenue may also be derived from assessments when and as ordered by a majority vote of a convention."**

EDITORIALS

Development of National Unions in the American Federation of Labor

The constructive machinery in the American Federation of Labor for the development of national and international unions is well illustrated in the report on "National Councils" made by the A. F. of L. Executive Council to the annual convention of the Federation in Denver, Colorado.

After emphasizing the successful operation of the newly established National Council made up of fabricated kitchen utensil and enamelware workers federal labor unions directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and the proposed National Council composed of A. F. of L. local unions of bookkeepers, stenographers, typists and assistants, the Executive Council said:

> The formation of these National Councils composed of federal labor unions established in industries over which national unions do not exercise jurisdiction, represents the preliminary steps taken to the final formation of international unions.
>
> It is the purpose and intent of the Executive Council that the workers employed in industries in which federal labor unions function be more thoroughly united and solidified so that they can bring about uniformity in wage standards and unite in pressing forward organizing campaigns.
>
> When, in the judgment of the Executive Council a sufficient number of workers in the industries where councils are formed, are organized so that an international union can be launched with a reasonable assurance that it would be self-sustaining, recommendations will be made that international unions be formed and chartered by the American Federation of Labor.

The progressive education which these workers in the Federal Labor Unions receive is well brought out in the Council's report.

First, as individual federal labor unions they negotiate agreements with employers in varied industries.

Later, grouped in National Councils they receive education in more comprehensive fields of trade union work.

And then, graduating from National Councils into National and International Unions they are fully equipped to administer trade union matters in the much broader national and international fields.

Surely this development of separate federal labor unions into National Councils and then into National and International Unions is a constructive growth based on the long experience of tried and true trade union leaders.

Persistent Unemployment

A striking illustration of one major failure of our industrial system, administered by those who own and control the machinery necessary for the production and distribution of wealth, is the persistence of the unemployment problem despite the fact that "prosperity" as defined by dividend receivers and interest collectors has practically returned to the peak period of 1929 before the lords of industry, commerce and banking precipitated the depression.

For all non-agricultural industries the Department of Labor estimates that in the twelve months ending May, 1937, 1,961,000 workers returned to employment. This was largely due to the persistent campaign of the American Federation of Labor against further lengthening of hours, which employers applied so thoroughly during the previous year that three hours were added to the work week.

Commenting on the estimates of the Labor Department, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor reported to the annual convention of the Federation in Denver, Colorado, that despite the year's gain of 1,961,000 in employed workers there were "7,800,000 still unemployed in May."

Pointing out that the Federation's reports from trade unions in 24 cities as late as July, 1937, "show that in many cases unemployment is still very serious in our own ranks," reaching 37½ per cent above 1929 in the building trades, 150 per cent above 1929 in the printing trades and 22 per cent above 1929 in all trades, the Executive Council declared:

> These figures are enough to indicate that the problem of unemployment is still very serious. We have 7,800,000 still unemployed when industrial production in the first half year was less than 1 per cent below the 1929 average. To provide an adequate living for our population and put our unemployed to work producing it, we must look far beyond all previous peak levels of industrial production. The first step is greater buying power for those now at work, so that they can increase production and employ their fellows. The second is a further shortening of work hours.
>
> Until the unemployed can find work in industry we must continue to provide for them with public funds. At the end of July, 2,158,000 were still at work on the works program and there were 1,400,000 on state and local relief in May, the latest figure.

In addition, the Council recommended the establishment of a "re-training program" for the benefit of several hundred thousand who "have either lost their skills through unemployment or lost their trade through machine displacement," which it was suggested should be tied in with the U. S. Unemployment Service; a "periodic record of the number of persons unemployed, either monthly or quarterly," compiled by the Social Security Board, and "an unemployment census taken at least every ten years."

In connection with the unemployment census the Council warned that "it should be accompanied by a complete census of population, with a careful enumeration of the employed as well as the unemployed," adding: "If this is not done, incomplete information is likely to result, making unemployment appear less than it actually is. Such misleading information would have the most serious consequences."

Organized Labor Mobilized by A. F. of L. Executive Council For Low-Cost Housing

Denver Convention Is Told Administration of Wagner Act Requires Close Contact by Representatives of Organized Workers; Formation of State Labor Housing Committees Urged.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the annual convention of the Federation here recommended the mobilization of trade union representatives throughout the United States for helpful cooperation in the administration of the Wagner $500,000,000 Housing Bill. In addition the Council urged the necessity of amendments "to strengthen the terms" and "extend the scope" of the act as soon as possible.

On these phases of the housing problem the Council's report said:

"The Executive Council, appreciating the need for close and constant contact with every phase of the administration of this Act by representatives of organized labor throughout the country, believes that the Housing Committee of the American Federation of Labor should continue to press the housing policy of the Federation in order to secure for the members of our unions and their families the full measure of benefit and protection from the operation of the program. We recommend that, to further accomplish this purpose, every state federation and every central labor union be directed to create a housing committee, or continue the existing housing committee, to cooperate with the state and local housing authorities, under general direction of the Housing Committee of the A. F. of L.

"We further request the Housing Committee to formulate a legislative program, designed to strengthen the terms of the Wagner Housing Act and extend the scope of its application, for submission in the next session of Congress."

Power of A. F. of L. President To Revoke Charters of Central Bodies Is Sought

Authority Is Asked in Connection With Violation of A. F. of L. Strike Rule.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—In order to make more efficient the provision in the constitution of the American Federation of Labor prohibiting a central body from ordering a strike involving a local union until the national organization concerned has been consulted, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the annual convention of the Federation here recommended that the provision be amended so as to give the president of the A. F. of L., in addition to the A. F. of L. Executive Council, authority to revoke the charters of central bodies violating this strike restriction.

If amended in accordance with the Executive Council's recommendation, Section 5 of Article XI will read:

"Section 5. No Central Labor Union, or other central body of delegates, shall have the authority or power to order any organization, affiliated with such Central Labor Union, or other central labor body, to strike, or to take a strike vote, where such organization has a national organization, until the proper authorities of such National or International organization have been consulted and agreed to such action. A violation of this law shall be sufficient cause for the President of the Executive Council to revoke the charter."

Unquestioned Administrative Power Between Conventions Asked by A. F. of L. Council

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—In order to adequately meet the situation resulting from the possible failure of affiliated unions to pay assessments ordered by the conventions of the American Federation of Labor, the A. F. of L. Executive Council, in its report to the annual convention of the Federation in session here, recommended that the constitution be amended so as to provide for the suspension of delinquent unions.

"In order to remove any possible doubt as to the authority and power of the Executive Council to deal adequately with any situation that may arise between conventions," the Council in its report to the annual convention of the A. F. of L. in session here proposed to amend Article IX of the A. F. of L. constitution by adding a new section to read:

"Section 13. The Executive Council shall be authorized and empowered to take such actions and render such decisions as may be necessary to carry out fully and adequately all provisions contained in the constitution and general laws as well as declarations and decisions of the conventions and it shall be authorized and empowered to take such further actions and render such further decisions during the interim of conventions as may become necessary to safeguard and promote the best interest of the Federation and of all its affiliated unions."

UNIONS ARE THE MAIN FACTOR IN WAGES AND HOURS FIGHT

A. F. of L. Executive Council Tells Denver Convention That During Six Months in 1937 Organized Labor Gained Twice As Much in Wage Increases as Private Industry Has Granted In Two Years, and Also Won Definite Reduction in the Length of the Work Week.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—Indisputable figures as to the value of trade unionism in increasing wages and reducing hours were presented by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to the annual convention of the Federation in session here.

The figures revealed that in the short period of six months during the present year trade unions won from reluctant employers increases in pay totaling more than twice the amount that employers had granted in the preceding two years.

With regard to the work week the Council reported that the drive of long hour employers has been materially checked by the unions with the result that the average hours have been reduced to 40½ per week, which was described as "a gain of one half hour's leisure."

UNIONS PUSH UP EARNINGS

"Records of wages in the first half of 1937," the Council's report said, "are striking evidence that workers must depend on union organization to increase their income.

"So far reaching has been the effect of the organizing drive this year that average hourly earnings in all recorded industries rose from 59 cents in December 1936 to 64 cents in June 1937, according to figures calculated from Labor Department records.

"This is an average gain for all workers of 5 cents an hour or more than $2.00 per week. In the previous two years, hourly earnings rose only 2½ cents—from 56½ cents in December 1934 to 59 cents in December 1936.

"Thus workers won for themselves in six months of union organization twice as great a gain as private industry had given them in two years. At no other time since depression, except the first four months of NRA, have such large gains been made.

LONG HOURS CHECKED

"Union organization has also been effective in shortening work hours this year by half an hour per week. There has been a tendency during recovery from depression, for employers to lengthen hours as production increased.

"Particularly striking was the increase in hours which followed the termination of NRA, when in 6 months two hours were added to the average work week, in industry generally, raising it from 37½ to 39½ hours.

"Until the organizing drive this spring, employers continued to lengthen the work week so that by January 1937 the average was 41 hours.

"This increase was checked by union action in the first half year, and by June 1937 hours were reduced to 40½ per week, a gain of one half hour's leisure. This contrasts sharply with last year when one hour was added to the work week during the same period.

40-HOUR WEEK DRIVE URGED

"These figures show clearly, however, that even the 40 hour week is not yet won in industry generally. Since the average week is 40½ hours, probably more than half the wage and small salaried workers in the United States still work over 40 hours a week. Only by strong organization can we prevent further increases and work toward a universal work week of 40 hours and less."

DIRECTLY AFFILIATED UNIONS NUMBER 1,406

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—The achievement of the American Federation of Labor in organizing local trade and federal labor unions directly affiliated with the A. F. of L. was shown in the report of Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison to the annual convention of the Federation here.

"On August 31, 1937," the report said, "we had 1,406 local trade and federal labor unions with an average membership for the fiscal year of 114,956, and a defense fund of $533,138.72.

"The Federation has 1,745 general and district organizers, as well as 229 paid organizers and the officers of the 735 city central bodies that are ready at all times to respond to a call to assist the members of directly affiliated unions in the case of strike or lockout.

"There was received a total per capita tax for defense fund purposes from the local unions during the year of $159,452.11, initiation fees, $177,868.36, and reinstatement fees, $6,901.50."

POWER TO CALL SPECIAL CONVENTIONS ASKED BY A. F. OF L. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Proposed Amendment to Federation's Constitution Would Also Confer Upon Conventions and Affiliated Unions Authority to Convene Such Meetings.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—An amendment to the constitution of the American Federation of Labor giving regular conventions of the A. F. of L., the A. F. of L. Executive Council and affiliated national and international unions with a majority membership of the A. F. of L., the right to call special conventions was recommended by the Executive Coucil of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the Federation's annual convention here.

"Because of swiftly changing conditions and by reason of unanticipated and unprecedented events requiring a more immediate and effective response," the report said, "your Executive Council is impelled to recommend several changes in the constitution and laws that are to govern hereafter.

"A year ago, at the Tampa, Florida, convention, the Executive Council was authorized to call a special convention if in its judgment such a special convention was deemed advisable or became necessary. However, present constitutional provisions do not embrace the calling of special conventions. Neither is there provided a method of representation and the giving of legal effect to decisions reached at such special conventions.

"To correct this deficiency it is proposed that Article III be amended by adding a new section to be known as Section 2, and all subsequent sections to be accordingly altered in numerical order and to read as follows:

"Section 2—(Special Conventions).

"A. Special conventions may be called by direction of a regular convention, by order of the Executive Council, or on request of National and International Unions representing a majority of the total membership of the American Federation of Labor, as evidenced by the records of the Secretary-Treasurer to the last regular convention.

"B. Special conventions shall not be called unless at least 30 days' notice of such special convention together with statement of particular subject or subjects to be considered has been given to all affiliated organizations.

"C. Representation to special conventions shall be on the same basis and subject to like qualifications and procedure governing regular conventions.

"D. Special conventions shall be clothed with like authority and power conferred upon regular conventions, its decisions shall be equally binding and it shall be governed by the same procedure applicable to regular conventions; however, such special conventions shall be limited solely to the subject or subjects specifically and definitely indicated in the call for such special convention."

A. F. OF L. COUNCIL ASKS POWER TO REVOKE CENTRAL BODY CHARTERS

Authority Will Be Used Against Units Which Permit Delegates From Suspended or Expelled Unions.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—An amendment to Section 1 of Article XI of the constitution of the American Federation of Labor conferring upon the president or the Executive Council of the Federation authority to enforce the provision prohibiting affiliated central bodies to seat delegates from local unions owing allegiance to suspended or expelled organizations was recommended by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the annual convention of the Federation in session here.

If amended in accordance with the Council's suggestion, the section will read:

"Section 1. No Central Labor Union, or any other central body of delegates, shall admit to or retain in their councils delegates from any local organization that owes its allegiance to any other body, National or International, hostile to any affiliated organization, or that has been suspended or expelled by, or not connected with, a National or International organization of their trade herein affiliated, nor are delegates to be seated from locals of National or Inernational organizations which are not affiliated to the American Federation of Labor, under penalty of having their charter revoked for violation of their charter, by the President or the Executive Council, subject to appeal to the next Convention."

New Rule On Representation in Central Bodies Suggested by A. F. of L. Council

Proposed Amendment to Constitution Remedies Disadvantages of Small Unions and of Large Local Unions Not Divided Into Smaller Units.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the annual convention of the Federation in session here suggested amending the A. F. of L. constitution to overcome certain disadvantages in central labor bodies of small local unions in comparison with larger unions and also to obviate inequalities alleged to result in cases where the larger local unions are separated into small units.

On this question the report said:

"Complaint has been filed with the Executive Council during the year to the unfairness and inadequacy of the present constitutional arrangement relating to representation of local unions in our Central Labor Unions.

"It has been pointed out that those organizations who do not separate their larger local unions into smaller units are placed at a disadvantage with those who do follow the latter method. Likewise complaint is made that undue representation is accorded at present to the very small organizations as compared to representation allowed to larger local unions.

"The Council is of the opinion that there is merit to the complaint and to correct this situation and without causing an undue change in representation it is proposed to amend Section 2 of Article XI, by adding to this section the following:

"'Upon roll call, if requested by at least one-tenth of the total number of delegates present, each delegate shall cast one-twelfth vote for each hundred members or major fraction thereof which he represents and as evidenced by the average per capita tax paid by his local union during the preceding twelve month period.'

"The section when amended to read:

"'Section 2. It shall be the duty of all National and International Unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor to instruct their Local Unions to join chartered Central Labor Bodies, Departments, and State Federations in their vicinity where such exist. Similar instructions shall be given by the American Federation of Labor to all Trade and Federal Labor Unions under its jurisdiction. Upon roll call, if requested by at least one-tenth of the total number of delegates present, each delegate shall cast one-twelfth vote for each hundred members or major fraction thereof which he represents and as evidenced by the average per capita tax paid by his local union during the preceding twelve month period.'"

A. F. OF L. ANNUAL INCOME EXCEEDS MILLION DOLLARS

Fiscal Year Closed With Balance Of $586,567, Secretary-Treasurer Morrison Reports to Denver Convention.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—The large responsibility in administering the financial affairs of the American Federation of Labor was statistically shown in the report of Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison to the annual convention of the Federation here for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 1936, and ending August 31, 1937.

"At the close of the fiscal year," the report said, "there was a balance on hand of $586,567.41. Of this total $533,138.72 is in the defense fund for the local trade and federal labor unions and the balance, $53,428.69, is in the general fund.

"The total receipts from all sources, $1,184,478.90, the total expenses, $1,167,317.57, amount of expenses over receipts, $17,161.42."

The balance on hand August 31, 1937, was $586,567.41.

A breakdown of the income for the year shows that per capita tax receipts amounted to $440,139.91; initiation fees, $177,868.36; defense fund for local trade and Federal labor unions (per capita tax from locals), $159,452.11; assessments, $59,099.70; American Federationist, $269,079.24.

On the expense side the larger items were: Organizers' salaries and organizing expenses, $457,787.92; printing and publishing American Federationist, $129,435.36; defense fund (strike and lockout benefits), $136,937.25; office employes, $166,820.44.

A. F. OF L. NATIONAL COUNCILS ARE PLANNED

Executive Council Reports That Fabricated Kitchen Utensil Group Is Operating Successfully; Councils For Office Workers, Doll and Toy Workers and Agricultural and Cannery Workers Are Under Consideration.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—The formation of National Councils composed of Federal labor unions established in industries over which national unions do not exercise jurisdiction is an important element in the organization plan of the American Federation of Labor and "represents the preliminary steps taken to the final formation of international unions," according to the report of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to the annual convention of the Federation here.

Kitchen Utensil Industry Council Progresses

During the last year, the report said, a National Council composed of Federal labor unions in the fabricated kitchen utensil and enamelware workers industry was formed at a conference in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 24. "The formation of this council was highly successful," the report added, with the manifestation of "a fine spirit of devotion and loyalty to the American Federation of Labor" and a determination to carry on organizing efforts among all workers in the enamelware and kitchen utensil industry.

Doll and Toy Workers Council Considered

Pointing out that the Tampa convention of the A. F. of L. had referred to the Executive Council resolutions calling for the establishment of a National Council of Doll and Toy Workers, the report said "it has not seemed either feasible or practical to call a conference and organize a National Council" in this industry, but that "organizing work is being carried on among those employed in the doll and toy manufacturing industry," and that a National Council of these unions will be formed when the circumstances indicate that it can be operated beneficially for the workers concerned.

Office Workers Conference Called

With regard to the organization of an international union of office workers, also referred to the Executive Council by the 1936 convention, the Council reported that "a conference of representatives of local unions of bookkeepers, stenographers, typists and assistants had been called to meet in Denver during the A. F. of L. convention for the purpose of setting up a National Council made up of federal labor unions of bookkeepers, stenographers, typists and assistants, chartered by the American Federation of Labor and which have remained loyal to the parent body."

Agricultural and Cannery Workers Council

On the question of the formation of an International Union of Agricultural, Packing House and Cannery Workers, referred to the Executive Council by the 1936 A. F. of L. convention, the Council reported as follows:

"A survey has been made of the situation existing in this field. Thus far it has seemed inadvisable to call a conference of representatives of agricultural, packing house and cannery workers unions for the purpose of setting up a Council within that jurisdiction.

"However, we are planning to call such a conference and to establish a National Council composed of federal labor unions chartered in the agricultural, packing house and cannery industry within the very near future."

NORTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR FIGHTS CROP SEIZURES

Bismark, N. D. (AFLNS).—Agents of the Farm Credit Administration as well as private agencies have been prohibited by Governor William Langer of North Dakota, by proclamation, from seizing or selling any crops grown during 1937 if the grower needs the crop to live on during the coming Winter.

In a radio address, the Governor instructed farmers of the state to "use all reasonable force at your command to prevent any collector from taking your grain. . . . If anyone comes upon your place and tries to take your grain, treat him as a man stealing chickens. He has no more right there than any other trespasser or interloper, and you have the right to chase him off the place.

RAND STRIKE-BREAKING TRIAL SET FOR NOV. 8

New Haven, Conn. (AFLNS).—The trial of James H. Rand, Jr., president of Remington Rand, Inc., and Pearl Bergoff, notorious strike-breaker, on charges of violating the Byrnes Act, has been set for November 8. It was announced by Federal Judge Carroll C. Hincke.

Alleged transportation of strikebreakers from New York to Middletown during the early stages of the renowned Remington Rand strike, resulted in indictments against both Rand and Bergoff.

Labor Board Exceeds Power Mediating Disputes, A. F. of L. Council Declares

(Continued from Page 1)

problems for the National Labor Relations Board. The handling of these problems by the Board has been the occasion of some of the adverse criticism which has been directed in recent months to the Board and its staff.

"Some of this criticism is only natural against a government board which has been functioning such a short time and under such serious handicaps. It had to select a staff covering the entire United States and pay this staff out of a small appropriation. There did not exist in this country a group of adequately trained labor experts whom the Board could draw upon to fill its responsible positions. It has, therefore, had to place in these positions persons who are inexperienced and sometimes persons who are biased in labor matters.

MEDIATION ACTIVITIES NOT AUTHORIZED

"There has been a good deal of misconception on the part of unions and their officials of the functions and scope of the Board's powers, and particularly of the authority possessed by Regional Directors of the Board.

"Activities of the Board's staff which have been mainly criticized are those activities in connection with the mediation or settlement of disputes in which the staff of the Board has sometimes shown a preference for C. I. O. unions.

"These mediation activities are not authorized by the Act; in fact, the powers of conciliation and mediation which the original Wagner Bill gave to the Board were stricken from the bill at the request of the American Federation of Labor because President Green foresaw the possible abuse of mediatory activities by a Board possessing such stringent administrative powers.

"We believe if the Board would recognize the fact that it does not possess these powers of mediation and would limit itself to acting on complaints against employers for violating the law and to determining representation by elections the cause of much of this criticism would vanish.

BARGAINING UNIT DISCUSSED

"Under the Board's powers of interpretation of the Act, subject to review by the courts, and its discretionary powers in determining representation for collective bargaining, there are some vital questions affecting labor which the Board has not yet decided.

"The language of the Act says the Board shall decide whether the bargaining unit shall be the employer unit, craft unit, plant unit or subdivision thereof; and the intent of Congress was that if a majority of a craft or class as a unit wanted to have representatives of their own the Board would so decide as a matter of course.

"In fact, such provision is made mandatory in the Railway Labor Act as follows:

"'The majority of any craft or class of employees shall have the right to determine who shall be the representative of the craft or class for the purposes of this Act.'

"There was and still is no thought that the National Labor Relations Board would do other than use its discretion in the same manner.

"There is considerable opportunity for abuse of discretion by the Board in determining representation.

"Our theory is that the representation should be determined by elections supervised by the Board by secret ballot, and the Board really has no authority to determine representation otherwise.

NOT EMPOWERED TO SETTLE INTER-UNION DISPUTES OR INTERFERE WITH UNION AGREEMENTS

"The Federation has consistently taken and tried to maintain the position that the Board was not created to resolve the internal disputes of labor organizations, nor to interfere with valid existing contracts between employers and unions. Also the Federation has adhered to its contention that crafts, where represented by a substantial number of employees of an employer, constitute the appropriate unit for collective bargaining and should not be included with all of the employees of an employer in one single unit."

BOARD'S FUNCTION IS TO PREVENT EMPLOYERS FROM INTERFERING WITH LABOR'S RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

After reviewing a number of the Labor Board's earlier decisions in which it established the policy of noninterference in inter-union disputes, "which the Board held should be settled by the parent body," and in later decisions involving the claims of "rival A. F. of L. and C. I. O. unions," the Council declared:

"The National Labor Relations Board is now taking jurisdiction under the decisions of the Supreme Court over a great portion of the vast industries of America. It possesses more power than does any other governmental board now in existence.

"The Board's task is important enough if it adheres to the original intention of the Act of preventing employers from interfering with employees in joining unions. This work could well occupy the entire time of the Board and its staff. The Board, however, is going beyond this function and letting itself be drawn into conflicts between unions when such entry by the Board is entirely improper and we believe unlawful."

"The administration of the Act by the Board is becoming more and more important," the Executive Council concluded. "Whether or not it will recognize the validity of union contracts where a question of representation has been raised, whether or not it will continue its hands-off policy with respect to intervention during a strike and whether or not it can continue to avoid the jurisdictional dispute between the Federation and the C. I. O. in the determination of units appropriate for collective bargaining remains to be seen. It is of the utmost importance to organized labor that the administration of the Act be in competent and conscientious and impartial hands."

A. F. of L. Council Asks Power to Revoke Charters of 10 Suspended C. I. O. Unions

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ence and negotiation. All of this has failed. Our efforts in this direction were rebuffed and defeated.

ISSUE MUST BE MET

"Now the Executive Council feels that the time has arrived when the American Federation of Labor must meet the issue created by the Committee for Industrial Organization in a clear-cut and positive way.

"The interests of every national and international union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor must be protected and preserved. Confusion and misunderstanding regarding the relationship to the American Federation of Labor of organizations holding membership in the C. I. O. must be terminated. The issue which created the division within the ranks of Labor must be made clear.

CHARTER REVOCATION POWER ASKED

"In order to accomplish this purpose the Executive Council recommends that in conformity with the law and the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor, the Convention confer upon the Executive Council authority and power to revoke the charters of the international unions holding membership in the Committee for Industrial Organization which were suspended by the Council on September 5, 1936, and affirmed by the Tampa Convention in November, 1936, as provided for in Section 12 of Article 9 of the Constitution."

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WANTS A. F. OF L. PRESIDENT GIVEN DISCIPLINARY POWER

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Confers Authority to Suspend and Revoke Charters of State Federations of Labor, Central Bodies and Federal and Local Unions and to Take Over Properties of Such Unions When Such Action Is "Deemed Imperative."

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—The need for more definite phraseology in the constitution of the American Federation of Labor relative to the power of the A. F. of L. president to enforce A. F. of L. laws and protect A. F. of L. property influenced the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the annual convention of the Federation here, to recommend an amendment to the constitution asserting in direct language the authority of the Federation's president to discipline disobedient and disloyal affiliated organizations.

"The past year," the Council said, "has demonstrated the necessity of clarifying and making more definite our constitutional requirements relating to State Federations of Labor, City Central Labor Unions and Federal and Local Labor Unions. To this end it is proposed to amend Article VI by inserting a new section to be known as Section 6 and all subsequent sections to be numbered correspondingly, this new section to read:

"Section 6. The President shall be authorized and empowered to discipline State Federations of Labor, City Central Labor Unions, and Local and Federal Labor Unions, including authority to suspend and/or expel any officer or member thereof, and/or to suspend and/or revoke their charter subject first to an appeal to the Executive Council and thereafter to the next regular convention immediately following.

"The President with the approval of the Executive Council shall likewise have authority and be empowered to safeguard and protect and if necessary take immediate charge of all equities and properties, tangible or intangible, acquired and/or possessed by State Federations of Labor, City Central Labor Unions and Local and Federal Labor Unions or their subsidiaries or agents, whenever or however such equities and/or properties may be jeopardized through disobedience to the constitution, laws, rules and requirements of the American Federation of Labor or for any other reason or cause deemed imperative by the President and the Executive Council, and shall hold same in trust as provided by the laws of the American Federation of Labor."

TRADE UNION BENEFITS TOTAL $34,608,691.78

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—Trade union benefits paid by national and international unions for 1936 amounted to $34,608,691.78, according to the report of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to the Federation's annual convention in session here.

"This vast sum of benefits paid, however, does not cover the total amount paid by all national and international and local unions during the past year," the Council said. "It represents the amount paid by national and international orgtnizations and other organized units which reported to the American Federation of Labor.

"Many local unions chartered by organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and federal labor unions chartered directly by the American Federation of Labor have established benefit funds out of which benefits were paid locally. In addition, strike benefits were paid by local organizations which do not appear in this report.

"Thus, there should be added to the total amount set forth in this report of benefits paid to members of organized labor, many millions of dollars more paid by organizations not reporting and by local unions chartered by international unions which have established and maintained benefit funds for the protection of their membership."

The amounts of the various benefits listed in the Council's report were as follows:

Death Benefits	$12,821,607.42
Sick Benefits	1,272,817.60
Unemployment Benefits	10,990,104.16
Old Age Benefits	5,288,906.27
Disability Benefits	2,588,505.87
Miscellaneous	1,646,750.46
Total	$34,608,691.78

Relentless War on C. I. O. Urged by Green in Keynote Address Opening American Federation of Labor Convention

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and return. The door has been held open for two years.

C. I. O. LEADERS REFUSE TO CONFER WITH A. F. OF L.

When the movement was first formed, as your representative, I appealed to the representatives of this dual movement to desist. I asked them this question: Can't you see what it will lead to? I begged them, in the interests of labor, to refrain and to dissolve the movement, to come back home and take their place in the family, and at the next convention to come in with their proposals and submit them for determination.

My distinguished colleagues of the Executive Council created a committee clothed with authority to meet with a committee from this dual union for the purpose of sitting around the table and in man fashion and in accordance with democratic procedure, proceed to deal with the problem and if possible find a basis of accommodation.

I say to you, my friends, that for two years this committee has stood waiting patiently, begging, entreating, asking these men to come and meet with us, discuss the question, and let us settle it. Every request that has been made was refused.

Even the request to come and meet with the Council for the purpose of defending themselves against charges that were filed was refused. Nothing but refusals—it seems that the only word that stood out in their vocabulary was "No, no, no!"

Well, how long do you think a great body such as ours can wait? How long shall we receive the answer "No"? How long shall we be patient and long-suffering?

TIME TO END TWO YEARS OF PATIENCE HAS COME

We think we have demonstrated to the American people that we have shown an unusual degree of patience, self-restraint and long-suffering during a period of two years.

But if I now measure the temper of the representatives of labor and the membership of organized labor, if I can adequately appraise it, it is my opinion that the end has been reached.

Our patient, long-suffering, hopeful group of organized workers and their representatives will now change from a position of watchful waiting and earnest appeal to the greatest fighting machine that was ever created within the ranks of labor.

The clock has struck. The hour is here. You are here to make the decision. Having appealed to them for two years to come back, you are now going to say that appeal will no longer be made.

CHARTERS OF C. I. O. UNIONS SHOULD BE REVOKED

And this convention, in my judgment, particularly if it follows the recommendation of the Executive Council, will order your Board of Directors to revoke the charters of these international unions who set up this dual organization.

And when you give your chosen representatives those orders I can assure you upon my sacred word of honor that your instructions will be carried out.

The division and hatred and the discord which we predicted took place. You were always taught, as I was taught, that the chief asset of labor was solidarity and unity and cooperation. United we stand anywhere, any place, and what we have been trying to do all these 57 years of existence was to unite and crystalize our movement, solidify it, make it a united, fighting organization, with every man and woman who is fighting to raise their standards of life and living here standing together shoulder to shoulder.

Were you ever taught any other philosophy in your local meetings, in your discussions with each other?

Our whole effort has been concentrated toward the development of unity and solidarity. All right, if that is the teaching, then what must you think of those who were taught at the feet of the greate teacher, Gompers, when they lead a dual movement, which they knew would rip and tear our movement apart?

What do you think of any man who would lend himself to a movement that would destroy our chief asset? Were you ever taught to regard him as loyal? I could suffer myself, yes, any kind of suffering for my movement, but I would never do a single thing, I care not what it might be, to realize an ambition that would injure my movement.

A. F. OF L. JURISDICTION INVADED

We were told in the beginning that it was not the purpose of the CIO to interfere with the jurisdiction of any union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor; we were told that they would confine themselves to organizing the unorganized into the American Federation of Labor.

They said, "It is not our purpose to hurt you. It is not our purpose to invade your jurisdiction. It is not our purpose to interfere with any union formed by the American Federation of Labor. It is our purpose to educate and organize the unorganized."

They must have under estimated our intelligence, for we knew better and we told them better. And what we told them became true.

RAIDED A. F. OF L. UNIONS AND FUNDS

Instead of directing their efforts toward organizing the unorganized, as they said in the beginning, they have devoted their efforts to raiding the bona fide unions in an attempt to confiscate and take away the funds that had been created by American Federation of Labor unions.

They have fostered, financed and supported unions, causing fights and loss of life. They have ripped and torn assunder our movement in many places.

They have divided men who were friends for years and have made them bitter enemies. They have divided families. The battlefields have been the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, every state in the Union where they attempted to capture our subordinate federations of labor and make out of them CIO agencies.

C. I. O. CHARTERS ISSUED TO A. F. OF L. AFFILIATES

They have issued charters to organized workers who were affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and as a result of that destructive, ripping, tearing process we have men at each others' throats on the Pacific Coast and elsewhere, fighting each other just like animals did in the days of the jungle, and as the primitive men fought each other in those days.

The Committee for Industrial Organization issued an international charter to men who were members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, located on the Pacific Coast. They were already organized into the American Federation of Labor; they were not non-union.

We organized them, spent our money to organize them and through our missionaries brought them in. We secured freedom for them, higher wages and improved conditions of employment, but in a subtle, insidious way those members of the dual group moved among them, influenced them, and appealed to them to apply for a charter, and then they issued the charter, splitting, tearing open a bona fide union chartered by the American Federation of Labor.

And the tragic feature of it is that the name of the president of an organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor is attached to this splitting charter as secretary of the Committee for Industrial Organization.

There is insult added to injury in that case, when you take this fact into consideration, that this splendid organization, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, numbering over 300,000, owns its own printing plant, publishes its journal, prints it in its own printing plant, engages in printing and employs printers to do the work, union printers under a union scale, and yet we find the president of the Printers' organization attempting to inflict a deadly blow upon that splendid organization.

What "nots" is there in that? We do not intend to invade the jurisdiction of any union. We do not intend to interfere with organized workers. I repeat what I said at Cincinnati, that those "nots" sound like hollow mockery.

CARPENTERS WILL BE SUPPORTED AGAINST C. I. O. ATTACKS

Well, let me serve notice upon those who participated in the issuance of that charter to those men on the Pacific Coast who have been organized into the carpenters' union, an organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, that you are not going to get away with it. We are going to defeat you on the Pacific Coast no matter what the cost may be. We are going to establish the supremacy of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America in the field of its legal jurisdiction.

I could tell you much more. I know you are listening with an expression of absorbing interest, but time forbids. Many other facts and much other information will be brought out for your consideration during the deliberations of this convention.

The destroying, destructive, ripping policy of this dual movement will be made clear to you and to the public, so that working men throughout the nation may make their own choice, their own determination.

Those who believe in the democratic procedure and policy of the American Federation of Labor may come with us, but those who believe in autocratic control and dualism and the dictation of a minority can go with the other group if they want to do so.

C. I. O. CAUSED DIVISION IN LABOR MOVEMENT

I repeat again that the responsibility for this division in the house of labor rests with those who formed this dual movement.

We disavow any responsibility whatsoever. Our conscience is clear. We have pleaded, we have begged, we have entreated with those who represented the other movement to come back. What more can we do? We did not set up that movement, we had nothing to do with it, and there would be no division in the house of labor if another movement had not been set up.

Secondly, the division in the house of labor must rest absolutely upon the shoulders of those who divided it through the setting up of a dual movement.

There would have been no Civil War in the United States if there had been no secessions and if a dual government had not been set up. We would not have been required to engage in a warfare for four years if majority rule had governed in the United States.

MINORITY RULERS ALWAYS FAIL

You can search the pages of history and you will find that in most every instance where a minority has attempted to impose its will upon the majority, that eventually that minority has lost and the will of the majority becomes the supreme law of the organization or of the land.

And so it will be with the American Federation of Labor. It stands as a part of the institutional life of the nation. It cannot be considered separate and apart from it.

Its value to the economic and social life of the nation is now being better understood. I think many of our enemies are now beginning to understand by comparison, if you please, the value of the economic philosophy of the American Federation of Labor.

PUBLIC OPINION FAVORS THE A. F. OF L.

We are now able to appraise public opinion, which has changed, and we believe that public opinion in America is being crystalized in support of the American Federation of Labor.

I say to you, my friends, there is no force more powerful in the public life of the nation than public opinion, and he who tries to run contrary to public opinion, properly crystalized, is bound to lose in the end.

MILLION NEW MEMBERS GAINED

Just a few words more.

The American Federation of Labor is moving forward, making rapid strides in spite of the opposition we encounter from professing friends as well as open foes.

We have added to our membership almost a million members during the past year. The reports of the Executive Council show that those million new members are dues paying members.

The membership of the American Federation of Labor as reported is made up of dues paying men, men who show by concrete evidence that they believe in the philosophy of the American Federation of Labor.

We have no fictitious membership, none that we claim we have that we cannot prove. Our records are open to the public. Here they are.

NOT A ONE-MAN ORGANIZATION

Furthermore, our movement is controlled from the bottom up, and not from the top down. This is not a one-man organization, issuing orders and edicts, appointing men to rule over other men, making his own decisions, consulting with nobody, governed by no executive council or by no law or convention or any expressed will of a democratic majority.

There is the difference—a great, democratic institution governed by law, its executive officers subject to the will of the Executive Council during the interim between conventions, and in conventions decisions made which the officers must obey.

That is democracy as compared to autocracy, and the American Federation of Labor prefers democracy to autocracy, because it has never yet become acquainted with any man, even the matchless Gompers, upon whom it would be willing to confer authority to rule over them and tell them what to do.

COOPERATIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN UNIONS AND EMPLOYERS

We have gone forward, lifting the standard of life and living in every community. We have increased wages, shortened hours, made life more tolerable. That is a part of the philosophy of the American Federation of Labor, and we are going to hew close to the line, because we are going to fight and fight for a better day and a better life for the millions of workers in America.

Secondly, we are endeavoring to develop a cooperative relationship between organized labor and the employers of labor.

We want to reduce industrial warfare to a minimum, not that we will ever surrender our economic right to strike and our economic power. That is inherent within, that is the weapon we possess that will be freely used whenever circumstances require.

But it is our purpose to avoid industrial conflicts, to promote understanding between employers and employees, to settle wage scales around the conference table through collective bargaining, and when those wage scales are settled, to sign them and pledge their execution on our sacred honor and our sacred word.

That is the policy of the American Federation of Labor. It will be reaffirmed, I am sure, and outlined in this convention.

Then, my friends, it is our purpose to meet courageously and bravely the other issues with which we will be confronted.

COMMUNISM, NAZISM AND FASCISM OPPOSED

We shall reaffirm our opposition to isms of any form, we care not whether it is Fascism, Nazism or Communism. We will have nothing whatever to do with it.

And, like soldiers fighting for liberty and freedom in the front trenches, we will meet the common enemy and we won't compromise with them, either, we won't employ them to shape and direct the local policies of the American Federation of Labor, and there will never be 200 employed Communists upon the payroll of the American Federation of Labor.

I have declared against certain tactics used through the exercise of these Communistic influences, and my statements have met with a hearty response from the loyal, devoted members of the American Federation of Labor and their friends.

I made these statements because we are not seeking to overthrow our Government, we want to preserve it and perpetuate here its democratic principles and democratic procedure.

FASCISM DESTROYED ITALIAN TRADE UNIONS

But I recall that in Italy following the close of the World War the seizure of private property in industry, its occupation by the workers as an economic weapon was preceded by the man on horseback, and democracy was wiped out and autocracy prevailed and has prevailed in Italy ever since.

And so I have said that we are not going to make the mistake here of doing what the workers did there.

There is no democratic trade union in Italy now; there has not been since the advent of Mussolini, and there never will be as long as Mussolini controls, and Mussolini could not control except through force.

SIT-DOWN STRIKE CONDEMNED

And so I have warned our constituents against the use of the same methods, the sit-down strike, the seizure of private property in Italy preceding the advent of the man on horseback, and I say to you as a student of national affairs and economic procedure that if that theory is put into effect on a very large and wide scale it will be preceded by Fascism and the man on horseback, and we don't want that here by any means whatsoever.

So we will face that issue and meet it bravely. We will improve our own methods legally, we will win our battles in accordance with law and lawful procedure.

I wonder what the representatives of the other group will say about that. I challenge them to say to the American public and the American people where they stand in relation to the sit-down strike.

U. S. NEUTRALITY IN WAR MUST BE MAINTAINED

Now, my friends, I have covered the questions which I think are uppermost in your minds. There is one other matter in which you are deeply interested, I know, and that is the existing situation which menaces the peace of the world.

We, a representative group of a great constituency, are deeply concerned over the developments which are taking place in foreign nations, and particularly in the Far East.

We view with feelings of deep concern and apprehension the development of the military machines in the great nations of Europe. We fear that eventually some spark will be set to the magazine and the conflagration will then take place.

Having still in mind the World War, we are afraid that, notwithstanding our determination to pursue the paths of peace, we will, through the operation of fate or some unforeseen incident, be dragged in.

I know I voice your sentiments when I say we are opposed to the participation of the United States in any European conflict whatsoever.

We maintain that our policy of strict neutrality shall be maintained and we call upon the Congress of the United States to strengthen our neutrality laws so that there may be provided that feeling of security which we all should enjoy in a land devoted to the principles and policies of peace.

A. F. OF L. AFFILIATES WITH I. F. T. U.

Only recently we took an advanced step when we became affiliated with the International Federation of Trades Union. Our great American Federation of Labor is now a part of the great international trade union movement.

We hope and believe that our participation in this great international trade union movement may afford an opportunity toward which we may make a contribution to the maintenance of world peace.

We are taking our seat at the table of international trade unionism; our movement is now affiliated with it; it is our purpose to continue that participation and through it to work for the exaltation and protection of the principles of world peace.

BOYCOTT IN FAR EAST CONFLICT URGED

We view with tremendous apprehension the conflict in the Far East, and we have been shocked by the tactics which have been used, as shown by the public press reports.

We are horrified when we read that these shrieking, destructive instrumentalities of death, the airplanes, fly over defenseless cities, dropping their bombs and terrorizing, destroying property and people. It has shocked us tremendously. I feel, and feel that you believe, that that sort of warfare is uncivilized, inhuman, and that it must stop.

For that reason I feel that public opinion in America should be crystalized into one gigantic protest, to be properly registered against the use of such war-like measures; that the nations of the world should join in a protest against it, and if that does not bring results I am of the opinion personally that the liberty-loving people of the world ought to inaugurate a boycott against any nation that persists in such destructive warfare.

GOMPERS' LAST MESSAGE ON VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLES

At this interesting moment, I want to refresh your memories. Many of you participated in the El Paso convention over which my distinguished predecessor, who has gone to his reward, presided for the last time.

We looked into his white face and his dim eyes; we felt that the end was near; in fact, when he called upon me to read his last message to the delegates in attendance at the convention it seemed to me then you could hear the splashing of the oars piloted by the One who has taken him into the Great Beyond.

It was a solemn convention and he uttered solemn words. He emphasized at that time the rule of reason, its application in our affairs, voluntary action, and warned us against the use of force, even though we may attempt to use it in the furtherance of a righteous cause.

It seems quite appropriate for me to repeat those solemn words. I will do so this morning, and I know as I read them the hearts and feelings of veterans in the trade union movement who are here will be deeply touched. They will revive stirring memories. Listen to the words of Gompers:

"So long as we have held fast to voluntary principles and have been actuated and inspired by the spirit of service we have sustained our forward progress and we have made our labor movement something to be respected and accorded a place in the councils of our Republic. Where we have blundered into trying to force a policy or a decision, even though wise and right, we have impeded if not interrupted the realization of our own aims.

"But the very success of our organization has brought additional and serious dangers. Office in the labor movement now offers opportunity for something in addition to service—it offers personal advancement both in the economic and in the political field. There are serious problems confronting us. Wisdom and conviction are necessary to wise decisions.

"We have tried and proved these principles in economic, political, social and international relations. They have been tried and not found wanting. Where we have tried other ways we have failed."

MENACE OF SELF-SEEKERS VISIONED

Now, there is included in this solemn statement a prophetic warning, and it seems to me at this time when ambitious men have sought to create another movement here, these words are appropriate. They indeed were prophetic as they apply to the existing situation. Listen, my friends!

"But the very success of our organization has brought additional and serious dangers. Office in the labor movement now offers opportunity for something in addition to service—it offers opportunity for the self-seeker who seeks an instrumentality for personal advancement both in the economic and the political fields. There are serious problems confronting us. Wisdom and conviction are necessary to wise decisions."

I leave those prophetic words with you.

Now the last recorded sentence:

"Events of recent months made me keenly aware that the time is not far distant when I must lay down my trust for others to carry forward.

"When one comes to closer grip with the eternal things there comes a new sense of relative values and the less worthy things lose significance.

"As I review the advance of my 60 years' contact with the labor movement and as I survey the problems of today and study the opportunities of the future, I want to say to you, men and women of the American labor movement, do not reject the cornerstone upon which labor's structure has been builded—but base your all upon voluntary principles and illumine your every problem by consecrated devotion to the highest of all purposes—human wellbeing in the fullest, widest, deepest sense."

A. F. OF L. LOYALTY TO GOMPERS PLEDGED

If I could say to Gompers now, or to his spirit if it is hovering over us, that his solemn admonition is a part of the life and purpose of every officer and delegate in this convention. He gave to us a common heritage. It is in our hands. We shall protect it and preserve it, and here, spirit of Gompers, the men and women of America will rededicate themselves to the preservation of the philosophy which you announced.

Now I am through. Perhaps I have talked too long, but if I have, you will pardon me because the subject is of such commanding, all-consuming interest.

Yonder stand the Rocky Mountains, and in all their majesty they seem to guard this great city of Denver. They have defied the elements and nature throughout all the history of the world. Immovable, majestic, they stand as an evidence of strength and perpetuity. Here in this hall is the American Federation of Labor personified by you.

I love to think of it as being just as rugged and majestic as the Rocky Mountains here to my left, and I know that our action taken in this convention in accordance with the mature judgment and calm deliberation will prove to the world that the American Federation of Labor is as enduring and majestic as the Rocky Mountains and will remain as long as they stand.

American Federation of Labor Convention Opens; 466 Delegates

(Continued from Page 1)

Denver Chamber of Commerce, who welcomed the delegates in the name of the business interests.

"The Chamber of Commerce," he said, "wishes for you the highest degree of success and mutual satisfaction in your deliberations. Remember this, if you get into any kind of a jam, if you run into any problem you can't solve, if you find any difficulty facing you, do as you have always done, both locally and nationally—simply send for the Chamber of Commerce."

Westfall Speaks for Veterans' Council

Following Mr. Collison's talk, Albert Westfall, president of the United Veterans Council of Denver, addressed the convention.

"We unite in welcoming you," he said, "because after all we have a great many things in common—we have those things in common which are for the good of the masses and which are for living enterprises, and when things don't go right, when things appear to be wrong for the masses and for our civic organizations we have from the Civil War up to the present time aligned in battle formation and have gone down the line for those things which we thought were right."

McCoy Asks Delegates to Visit Union Printers' Home

The convention was then addressed by James McCoy, superintendent of the Union Printers' Home, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

"We would like to have you delegates and visitors come down to Colorado Springs," Mr. McCoy said. "There you will find a mile east of the town on the hill what we like to call Labor's greatest monument. There you will see the Union Printers' Home in all its glory.

"We have many prominent visitors, from the ranks of professional men and men high in the Nation's affairs. We are honored often by the presence of the Governor, and the Mayor of Denver and other prominent people, and we would like to have you folks come down and let us show you the honors."

Mrs. Joe Pruss Speaks for Women's Auxiliaries

Declaring that "no convention would be a success without the ladies," Mr. Goshen next introduced Mrs. Joe Pruss, president of the Joint Council of Women's Auxiliaries of Denver, who, in the name of 17 affiliated trade union auxiliaries, welcomed the delegates and on behalf of the Denver Joint Council presented to President Green a beautiful basket of Fall flowers.

Mrs. Pruss urged the delegates to see to it that there is a ladies auxiliary to their local union formed in each community, with their wives, mothers and sisters as members.

Brownlow Gives Greetings from State Federation of Labor

The next welcoming speaker was James A. Brownlow, vice president of the Colorado State Federation of Labor.

Mr. Brownlow briefly traced the "turbulent history" of labor in the State of Colorado from an early period through the wave of strikes from 1901 through 1905 and later years in which "many members of the organized labor movement, their wives and their children gave up their lives that the labor movement might progress."

But out of all these disputes, he added, "this State is going forward to a clear conception of what the labor movement means, of its tremendous value to the State itself and to its citizens—and we are progressing as an American Federation of Labor organization."

Webb Voices Welcome from Building Trades Council

Following Mr. Brownlow's talk, William T. Webb, president of the Denver Building and Construction Trades Council, welcomed the delegates with the wish for a successful convention and an enjoyable stay in Denver.

Osborne Announces Trades Assembly Entertainment Program

Directing attention to the fact that the Denver Trades and Labor Assembly was organized 52 years ago, Mr. Goshen presented Hugh Osborne, president of the Assembly, who announced that the various local committees had arranged a number of entertainments in which it was hoped all the delegates would participate.

Following Mr. Osborne's invitation, Mr. Goshen presented William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, with a gavel, the handiwork of union craftsmen and bearing the union label.

Green Outlines Labor's Policies

The convention was then formerly opened by President Green, who, in a firmly phrased keynote speech, emphasized the fundamental importance of democratic procedure and majority rule in the American Federation of Labor and condemned in vigorous language the Committee for Industrial Organization, ten component unions of which were suspended by the 1936 convention of the American Federation of Labor for establishing a dual organization within the A. F. of L. and refusing to withdraw from it.

Mr. Green pointed out that patience in dealing with the C. I. O. had reached its limit and that the time had come for the American Federation of Labor to meet the issue squarely and revoke the charters of the disloyal unions.

He declared that the American Federation of Labor is the defender of American liberty in every aspect and stands in direct opposition to Fascism, Nazism, Communism and every other ism that seeks to destroy our fundamental institutions.

He said the A. F. of L. viewed with apprehension the development of military machines in the larger European nations and were horrified with the destruction of lives by the conflict in the Far East.

He concluded with a tribute to Samuel Gompers, whose last words urged the American Federation of Labor to hold fast to voluntary principles, and declared that every officer and every delegate to the A. F. of L. convention would "rededicate themselves to the preservation of the philosophy" which Samuel Gompers voiced just before he passed into the Great Beyond.

(The complete text of Mr. Green's speech appears elsewhere in this issue of the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service.)

TRUSTEES OF A. F. OF L. BUILDING MAKE REPORT

Receipts For Year Exceeded Expenses; Balance on Hand, $67,388.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—The American Federation of Labor enjoyed a financially profitable year in the operation of the American Federation of Labor Building in Washington, D. C., according to the report of the Building Trustees submitted by the A. F. of L. Executive Council to the annual convention of the Federation here.

At the beginning of the last fiscal year (August 31, 1936), there was a balance in the building fund of $65,$294.52. Rents received for the year amounted to $29,825 and interest on invested funds totaled $1,487.50. Other miscellaneous receipts raised the entire income for the year to $31,413.04.

The total expenses in connection with operating the building were $29,319.32, which included $16,016.52 paid to building employees; plastering and painting $3,287.94; taxes, $2,759.44; electricity, $1,658.37; fuel, $1,276.29.

A new item of expense comes under the Social Security tax, for which the American Federation of Labor paid $251.77 for the unemployment insurance tax and $93.12 for the old age benefit tax.

The balance on hand August 31, 1937, totaled $67,388.24.

The trustees of the A. F. of L. building are: William Green, Frank Morrison and John P. Frey.

Brewery Workers Condemned for Suit Against Teamsters and the A. F. of L.

Executive Council Tells Denver Convention That Petition to U. S. Court for Injunction to Set Aside Jurisdiction Rule Adopted by 1933 Convention Attacks the "Fundamental Structure of the American Federation of Labor."

"Never Before in the History of Labor Injunctions Has an Attempt Been Made to Secure Such an All-Embracive and Far-Reaching Injunction Against the Workers of Our Land; and the Shame of It All Is That This Injunction Is Applied for by One of Our Affiliated Unions."

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Denver, Colo.—The 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor by an emphatic vote of 13,872 to 5,859 decided that jurisdiction over teamsters and chauffeurs in the brewery industry properly belonged to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America rather than to the International Union of the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America.

The resistance of the Brewery Workers Union to this decision culminated recently in the filing of a petition for an injunction in the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia to restrain the Teamsters Brotherhood and the officers and Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor from applying the convention decision.

The A. F. of L. Executive Council, in its report to the annual convention of the Federation here, denounced this action of the United Brewery Workers as a direct blow against the organized labor movement and an attack on the "fundamental structure" of the American Federation of Labor itself.

"The situation presented, if successful," the Council declared, "is destined to bring the regulation and control of allied and federated trade and labor unionism, as symbolized by the American Federation of Labor for the past fifty years or more, definitely within the realm of the equity powers of our courts."

SUIT ATTACKS ALL A. F. OF L. UNIONS

Pointing out that because the American Federation of Labor is "a federated body this complaint and petition in practical effect embraces each and every affiliated national and international union, every state federation of labor and central labor union and all of our local and federal labor unions," and that "this injunction, if granted, will embrace the entire membership of the A. F. of L., numbering over 3,500,000, excluding only members located in the Dominion of Canada," the Executive Council declared:

"Never before in the history of labor injunctions has an attempt been made to secure such an all-embracive and far-reaching injunction against the workers of our land. And the shame of it all is that this injunction is applied for by one of our affiliated international unions.

"Incidentally the plaintiffs in bringing this suit also ignored the law, well recognized by the courts, that the courts will let labor unions, like churches, settle their own internal affairs, and cannot be called on to intervene (on the petition of a disgruntled union, if it has been given a hearing before the proper union tribunal under the union's constitution and laws) to set aside the findings and decrees of the union's highest tribunal.

SEEKS TO ANNUL A. F. OF L. LAW; DAMAGE SUITS VISIONED

"What then is the offense that should prompt an affiliated organization to pursue such an unwarranted and unjustifiable procedure?

"The injunction applied for has for its preliminary purpose the setting aside of a decision of the American Federation of Labor reached in a regular convention of the Federation in 1933. This decision was reached in accordance with its Constitution, laws and approved Rules of Procedure.

"Its further purpose is to compel the American Federation of Labor to observe the will of the Brewery Workers as against the will of the overwhelming majority of organizations in affiliation with the Federation. If successful the further opportunity is presented to claim damages or such other redress as the Brewery Workers International Union may be disposed to seek.

CONVENTION DECISIONS HAVE BEEN REGARDED AS FINAL

"Heretofore, and ever since the inception of the A. F. of L., decisions of the American Federation of Labor in convention assembled have been accepted as final and they have been deemed beyond question of control or regulation by our courts.

"It has always been the clear and unquestioned understanding that the A. F. of L. was a voluntary federation of national and international unions and that in accepting membership the affiliated unions agreed to abide by its constitution, laws, rules and decisions. Heretofore it was the unquestioned conception and understanding that the A. F. of L. was supreme in defining the relationship of one international union to another and to the A. F. of L. and that these decisions were beyond the reach of our equity courts.

AFFILIATION "PROPERTY RIGHT" PUNCTURED

"Apparently the view is now entertained by the International Brewery, Flour and Cereal Workers of America that membership in the A. F of L. involves a 'property right'; that the relationship of one international union to another and to the A. F. of L. involves a 'contract' without regard to the conditions on which the 'contract' was specifically accepted, and that the 'Certificate of Affiliation' impels and compels the A. F. of L. and all of its affiliated unions to honor and respect in all ways and without deviation or change that declaration of jurisdiction conceived and claimed originally when an affiliated union is first admitted to membership.

"If the claim be sound that affiliation to the A. F. of L. involves a 'property right' subject to review, regulation and control by our equity courts then indeed will the whole structure of American allied or federated trade unionism and of voluntary relationships be placed in jeopardy. No such claim is justifiable either by constitutional provisions or by custom or practice. Indeed the contrary is an accepted and established fact.

AFFILIATION CERTIFICATE TEXT IS GARBLED

"While the complaint charges violation of a 'contract' the 'Certificate of Affiliation' upon which this claim is founded is cited only in part. The petition filed and the allegations set forth in the complaint deliberately omit reference to the specific provision in the 'Certificate of Affiliation' making clear that affiliation is predicated on the specific understanding that such affiliated organization will at all times abide by the laws, rules and regulations as prescribed from time to time by the A. F. of L. and as set forth in its constitution and general laws.

A. F. OF L. JURISDICTION DECISION AUTHORITY IS CHALLENGED

"Not a single allegation is made that the A. F. of L. failed to observe all constitutional requirements, laws and rules, but the whole insistence is placed on the assumption that the A. F. of L. is without power and authority to decide as between conflicting claims of jurisdiction of two or more affiliated unions.

"In other words it is contended, regardless of whatever change may take place in the development of industry, of materials or methods used, of changes taking place in form and character, of industrial organizations, styles, fashions, etc., that the A. F. of L. is without power or authority to deal with ever changing scenes and quite regardless of conflicts between affiliated unions and disastrous consequences affecting the labor movement as a whole.

BREWERY WORKERS UNION HAS BENEFITED BY A. F. OF L. DECISIONS

"The novelty and peculiarity of this appeal to the courts is particularly emphasized in that the complainant international union has not only profited by the authority and procedure of the A. F. of L. it would now challenge but the record is replete and complete of like decisions rendered by A. F. of L. conventions affecting other organizations and wherein this complainant international union participated by vote as well as by voice.

INJUNCTION MEANS EQUITY COURT CONTROL OF LABOR MOVEMENT

"By this complaint the American labor movement is placed in a most unfortunate light before the general public. On the one hand it is alleged the A. F. of L. is not alert to changing conditions and the development of a new order. On the other hand, recourse is now had to the equity courts completely to restrain the A. F. of L. from dealing effectively with new situations and developments arising in our economic, social and political life.

"More important than all is the fact that if this petition for an injunction is allowed there will then have been established the opportunity of our equity courts to regulate and control the internal as well as the external relationships and activities of all of our organizations of labor.

"If successful, one of our affiliated international unions will have made possible a judicial review of all future activities of organized labor.

"In practical effect that which hostile employers have sought and failed to accomplish by means of proposed legislation for so many years will then have come to fruition and the fault will rest on the shoulders of one of our affiliated unions whose officials are unwilling to abide by decisions of the conventions of the American Federation of Labor.

VOLUNTARISM PRINCIPLE WILL BE DEFENDED

"The Executive Council has taken adequate steps to meet the issues presented. It will leave no stone unturned to deal adequately with this latest and most dangerous attack on the principle of voluntarism as it relates to allied and federated trade and labor unionism. In that defense we are confident we shall have the united influence of all of organized labor throughout the land and quite regardless of character or form.

"Firm in that conviction we express the confident belief and conviction that those who would thus endanger the very life of organized and of federated trade and labor unionism will in time come to see the error of their way and failing so to do, will fully and amply reap the bitter rewards of their own folly and suffer a fitting penalty for their own misdeeds.

"Our own concern now will be to prevent this folly and unwisdom from undermining the very structure of organized and federated trade and labor unionism in America. Labor will know how to deal fully and fittingly with such reprehensible conduct and procedure.

"It is, of course, unwise at the time of the preparation of this report to indicate what may be the outcome of this litigation or what may take place between now and convention time.

"The Executive Council proposes to present a supplementary report on this subject to the coming convention embracing all further developments and actions having transpired during this interim and with recommendations based on future developments and requirements."

LADIES HANDBAG UNION WINS MANY VICTORIES

Progress of Newly Chartered Member of A. F. of L. Family Reported by A. F. of L. Council.

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS). — Constant achievement of improved conditions for union members by the International Ladies' Handbag, Pocketbook and Novelty Workers' Union is cited by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in its report to the Federation's annual convention here.

Pointing out that the union was chartered by the Executive Council on May 5, 1937, the report said:

"This organization was given jurisdiction over those employed in the manufacture of ladies' handbags, pocketbooks and leather novelties.

"The organization has made substantial progress. A number of outstanding strikes which it was forced to order were won. Agreements have been negotiated between employers and members of the organization providing for union recognition, increased wages and improved conditions of employment.

"The officers of the American Federation of Labor as well as the Executive Council have given to this organization a full measure of cooperation and support."